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31 JANUARY 1980 (FOUO 5/80) 1 OF 2

JPRS L/8897 31 January 1980

Worldwide Report

NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS

(FOUO 5/80)



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WORLDWIDE REPORT NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS

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OVERDOSES UP AS ADDICTS TURN TO BARBITURATES

Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 5 Nov 79 p 3

[Report by Graham Williams]

[Text] Growing barbiturate abuse by drug addicts has nearly doubled the number of overdose victims treated at St Vincent's Hospital, Darlinghurst, in the past few months.

The hospital, which a year ago was treating 70 patients a month for drug overdose, has treated an average of 135 overdose cases a month over the past three months.

> The patients range in age from 14 to the late twenties.

The supsurge is so serious that the NSW Pokson: Advisory Committee will this month consider placing barbiturates on the same restricted schedule as narcotics.

Social workers in the Kings Cross and Dar-linghurst areas also say barbiturate use — usually boost-ed with alcohol — has in-cresed dramatically among drug addicts in the past few months.

Dr Tom Claffey, director of St. Vincent's accodent and emergency unit, said drug addicts in the area could obtain

dicts in the area could obtain barbiturates freely.

"They get a lot of barbiturates and they have a party. They often take them with alcohol, which greatly increases the effect," he said.

"They go into coma—not because they're suicidal, in the main, but because they want to get 'high' and they want to get 'high' and they

want to get 'high' and they overdo it.

"The barbiturates are in such demand now that one type, which addicts call 'red devils', fetches \$1 to \$1.50 per capsule on the streets.

"Bub we also find that many of the overdose victims have obtained the barbitu-rates on a doctor's pre-scription. Some have managed to get multiple

"If the current rend continues, we will be treating 1,600 overdoes cases a year." In the year to June 30, 1978, 676 cases were treated and 1.083 were treated in the same

1.083 were treated in the same period last year.

Dr Claffey said he was privide that barbitularies were so easily obtainable.

He strongly believed they should be recorded in pharmamists' drug registers as with narcotics, to ensure accountability.

bility.
"Whenever an ambulance driver brings in a bottle of barbiturates on which a person has overdosed, we ring up the pharmacy now and ask for

the dame of the doctor and?

the date on which the barbiturates were prescribed.

"We also write to the doctor saying that the patient for whom such and such a barbiturate was dispensed was admitted to the hospital after overdosing."

The director of the Crisis Centre at the Wayside Chapel, Kings Cross, Mr Bill Crews, says addicts who have been taking a wide variety of drugs for years have switched to barbiturates plus alcohol. biturates plus alcohol.

biturates plus alcohol.

"Many inject the barbiturates and, by taking alcohol as well, the effect is doubled. They can easily overdose without realising or wanting to.

"I knew one chap who had been on heroin for years. He switched to barbiturates a couple of months ago, and, after taking barbiturates with alcohol, he overdosed and died.

"Kids who get scripts for, say, 50 barbiturates, pay only \$2.75 to the chemist and then they can sell them for about \$1 a capsule. That's a big incentive for some of them to try to convince doctors they need a barbiturate to make them sleep."

sleep."
Mr Crews said he wanted to see much tighter controls on the availability of barbiturates.

HEROIN USE IN NEW SOUTH WALES UP 24 PERCENT IN 2 YEARS

Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 6 Nov 79 p 3

[Report from Rodney Frail, State Parliamentary Reporter]

Text

A study by a researcher for the Royal Commission into Drug Trafficking has shown that the use of heroin in NSW increased by about 24 per cent between 1976 and 1978.

The Minister for Health, Mr Stewart, gave details of the study yesterday when he opened the 10th National Drug Enforcement Officers' course at Manly.

Manly.

The figures were revealed on the eve of the tabling of the Royal Commission's report in State Parliament this afternoon.

Mr Stewart said the research officer, Miss Roseanne Ronney, had produced figures showing that the number of heavy users of narcotics — those exposed to the danger of overdosing — had risen in NSW from just over 7,000 in 1976 to about 9,250 in 1978.

A spokesman for the NSW

9,250 in 1978.

A spokesman for the NSW Drug and Alcohol Authority said yesterday that the use of narcotics meant almost exclusively the use of heroin.

Miss Bonney's study was based on the number of people arrested for drug offences and subsequently arrested on a separate but similar charge.

Mr Stewart said that if the State figures were applied Australia-wide, there were

about 26,300 hard-drug users in the country.

The officers' three-week course is being attended by drug law enforcement officers from all State and and Commonwealth agencies and officers from New Zealand.

The Royal Commission's report is expected to refer to Miss Bonney's figures and to press strongly for heavier penalties for drug trafficking.

The Premier, Mr Wran, said yesterday that the Government would not delay implementing as many of the Commission's recommendations as practicable.

Mr Wran, who has only scanned the report, would not be drawn yesterday on its contents.

But he save an indication of

But he gave an indication of the Government's attitude to stronger penalties when he said:
"I think the community is becoming more and more apprehensive about the widespread use of drugs, ranging from alcohol to heroin."

The Premier said there might also be some merit in awaiting the report of the federal Royal Commission into Drugs, expected apon.

In Camberra, the fate of the Narcotics Bureau was discussed yesterday at a meeting of Federal Cabinet.

However, it is believed that Cabinet made no final decision on the future of the bureau.

PRESS REPORTS REPERCUSSIONS OF WILLIAMS, WOODWARD REPORTS

Criticism from Opposition

Canberra THE AUSTRALIAN in English 8 Nov 79 p 2

[Report from Gary O'Neill]

[Text]

THE Opposition bombarded the Minister for Business and Consumer Affairs, Mr Fife, for hours yesterday over the report of Mr Justice Woodward on the Federal Narcotics Bureau.

But an unrelenting cross-examination during Question Time and an attempt to censure him failed to move Mr Fife to renounce his loyalty to the bureau. He stonewalled several questions harshly critical of the bureau's competence and record of administration. administration.

He said the Government would not make any

more changes to combat the drug trade until the: Royal Commission on Drug Trafficking in NSW released its final report, expected before the end of

the year.

Mr Fife defended the permanent head of his, department from charges of misleading the commission. He said he had told his department to

commission. He said he had dold his department to co-operate in every way and believed it had done so.

The Leader of the Opposition, Mr Hayden, shouting across the table at Mr Fife, said he should be condemned for his administration of the

be condemned for his administration of the narcotics bureau.

He accused Mr Fife of trying to cover up the ineffectiveness of the bureau in combating the lethal drug trade in Australia.

He said Mr Fife had ranmed legislation through Parliament to give the bureau phone-tapping rights when MPs were not fully aware of the consequences of the action.

The bureau had been an unparallelled failure as a

consequences of the action.

The bureau had been an unparallelled failure as a law enforcement agency. It had been infiltrated and leaks from its computer banks had resulted in the deaths of narcotics informants, he said.

Mr Fife said the Government had acted responsibly and quickly at all times to make interim changes to the bureau's administration.

But it would be irresponsible the said to

But it would be irresponsible, he said, to undertake more major changes to drug administration agencies before the full report and recommendations of the royal commission were. known later this year.

Police To Replace Narcotics Bureau

Camberra THE AUSTRALIAN in English 7 Nov 79 p 3

[Report from Russell Schneider]

[Text]

THE function of the Federal Narcotics Bureau is to be taken over by the newlyformed Australian Federal Police.

Officers appointed to the new narcotics division are expected to be rotated at two-yearly intervals to minimise

the possibility of corruption.
The Federal Government has also directed the Customs Department to co-operate with the AFP against drug

traffickers.

It has decided to give the police the sole authority to tap telephones when investigating drug offences.

And it is considering setting up a drug intelligence cell to collate all criminal intormation, suggest targets for police, and effect international liaison on drug matters.

The Government has also been urged to organise the in-troduction of uniform State-federal legislation on drug trafficking.

The decision leaves in doubt the future of the chief of the Federal Narcotics Bureau, Mr Harvey Bates, who was se-verely criticised by the Leader of the Opposition, Mr Hayden, in Parliament yesterday.

INTERIM REPORT

Initially he and all other

Initially he and all other narcotics bureau officers will be transferred to the AFP.

The new police commissioner. Sir Colin Woods, will then decide which officers are suitable for appointment as police and which should be applied by the Service jubs.

given Public Service jobs.

The decision to hand narcotics bureau powers over to the police followed an

interim report of the NSW Royal Commission on Drugs

which strongly criticised the effectiveness of the bureau. In its report, tabled in NSW Parliament yesterday, the commission:

ACCUSED the bureau of failing in its aim of detecting major drug traffickers.

CLAIMED that increases in arrests, prosecutions and seizures of drugs had often occurred with little or no help from the bureau.

WARNED of increasing distrust of the bureau among other law enforcement bodies. DESCRIBED many "dedicated and keen" agents as suffering considerable frustration and by termess.

Call for Government Support

Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 12 Nov 79 p 25

[Text] Canberra: Law-enforcement agencies should be given greater government assistance in their fight against drug trafficking, the Opposition Leader, Mr Hayden, said yesterday.

He said that the two royal commission reports on drugs released last week emphasised the need to expand and upgrade law-enforcement operations throughout Australia.

With the disbandment of the Narcotics Bureau, the Federal Government had finally brought its law-enforcement responsibilities together in the Australian federal police, as the Labor Government proposed five years ago. ago.

The anti-narcotics initiative must come from the national Government because no other had the resources to support the necessary effort or play a coordinating role.

A relatively modest application of Federal funds could have significant results with proper planning and co-oper-ation.

OBSESSION

Mr Hayden said law enforcement was one of the many areas that suffered markedly from the Fraser government's ob-

session with cutting back on public-sector spend-ing, irrespective of social consequences.

"The Government's attitude was notably different when it came to
the personal security of
the Prime Minister on
his travels overseas—in
that case, expenditure of
up to \$40 million was
considered proper," he
said.

Mr Hayden said that if

Mr Fraser's priorities had been based on a genuine concern for the safety and security of people and on the need to stem the tide of illegal drug trafficking, that \$40 million could have had enormanus impact.

Tistead, Australia remained alarmingly exposed to this traffic, while judicial inquiries found that measures taken so far had failed disastrously.

"The Australian police forces are undermanned and underequipped by the standards of comparable countries, yet there is no concerted effort in sight to remedy the problems," he said.

Bureau Disbandment Analyzed

Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 9 Nov 79 p 7

[Feature, "Canberra Commentary," by Peter Bowers: "Death of a Drug Bureau"]

[Text]

IN AXING the Narcotics Bureau, the Federal Government acted not on the 11½-page summary made public this week, but on a 170-page report, most of which will remain secret.

As a result the most serious charges levelled by the Opposition against the bureau, its administrative head, the Secretary of the Department of Business and Consumer Affairs, Mr Besley, and its minister, Mr Fife, will remain hanging unless Mr Justice Williams chooses to resolve them in his final report.

For example, Mr Hayden stated, though somewhat tentatively, that Mr Justice Williams had "suggested that perhaps it [the Narcotics Bureau] was corrupt on a significant scale."

Mr Fife categorically denied that His Honour had made any such suggestion. Whom to believe? Both Mr Hayden and Mr Fife have the full report.

The sudden, though not completely unexpected, death of the Narcotics Bureau filled pages of Hansard but it was nevertheless an iceberg of a debate: Mr Fife and Mr Hayden knew its total dimensions while the rest of us could only guess at its shadowy hugeness.

It is Mr Justice Williams, who is conducting the Federal-sponsored Royal Commission into Drugs (not to be confused with the NSW-sponsored Woodward inquiry), not the Government who insists on his interim report being kept confidential.

The Judge deemed it proper to keep the report confidential as it dealt only with the Narcotics Bureau and would allow for frank criticism to an extent not possible in a public report.

Having accepted Mr Justice Williams's "strong recommendation" to disband the Narcotics Bureau, the Government

found itself in a dilemma.

It could hardly disband the Narcotics Bureau without disclosing the basis for such drastic action.

Mr Justice Williams was contacted and he agreed that a summary containing his major recommendations be extracted from the report and made public. The released report included the observation that "strong criticism publicly made of the Commonwealth's only specialised drug enforcement agency will compromise the national effort against drug abuse."

While the published report contained enough meat to make it a devastating indictment of the efficiency and effectiveness of the Narcotics Bureau, one must assume that much stuff is to be found in the 160-odd pages remaining confidential.

The Government certainly went to extraordinary lengths to keep the report under wraps. It was issued only to Cabinet ministers, as distinct from junior ministers, with the exception of Mr Fife who, as the responsible minister, had to have a copy.

When Cabinet decided that Mr Hayden and the leader of the Australian Democrats, Senator Chipp, should have the full report on a confidential basis, Mr Fife personally delivered a copy to both men.

Mr Hayden got Mr Fife's agreement to show the report to two other members of the ALP, one in the House of Representatives and one in the Senate.

It proved a macabre coincidence that the Federal Government acted on Melbourne Cup day, Racegoers may remember the 1979 Melbourne Cup as the day Dulcify broke down and had to be put down: bureaucrats will remember it as the day the Narcotics Bureau was put down.

It was no coincidence that the Government acted on the same day as the NSW Government released the Woodward report. Realising that the Narcotics Bureau was vulnerable, more than one Cabinet minister was worried that Mr Justice Woodward might do to the bureau what Mr Finnane had done to Mr Sinclair.

When it was learned late last week that the Woodward report would probably be released on Tuesday, ministers realised they could not appear to be sitting on the Williams interim report, which had been specifically requested by the Federal Government and had been in Mr Fife's hands for six weeks.

Cabinet

The Williams report went to Cabinet on Monday, but the decision to dismantle the Narcotics Bureau and put the law enforcement role under the new Federal Police Force was not taken until the next morning, a few hours before the announcement in Parliament.

The entire Cabinet found Mr Lastice Williams's arguments cor pelling. It brought home to Mr Anthony and Mr Lynch the inherent political danger of having a law enforcement agency directly attached to a Government department.

Any opprobrium attaching to the agency would rub off on the Government, whereas the public tends to view a police force as a separate entity, divorced from government

When Mr Anthony announced the Narcotics Bureau's demise in Parliament he tabled what he called the "amended version" of the Williams interim report.

Although Mr Justice Williams made clear that he rejected the evidence of Mr Besley, the department's permanent head, as to the efficiency of the bureau, there is no direct criticism of Mr Besley in the "amended version."

version.

This did not constrain Mr
Hayden from charging Mr
Besley with having misled the
Royal Commission on a number of matters.

Recommendation

When Mr Hayden began referring to evidence before the commission, a decidedly edgy Mr Anthony wanted to know if he was quoting from the classified section of the Williams report. Mr Hayden said he was not, but he could see no reason why, with a few deletions for security reasons, the full report could not be made pullic.

In Mr Hayden's view both Mr Fife and Mr Besley were answerable, because, given the extent and gravity of deficiencies Mr Justice Williams found in the Narcotics Bureau, Mr Hayden found it inconceivable they were not aware of the problem.

One Williams recommenda-

One Williams recommendation not adopted by the Government was that members of the Narcotics Bureau be given the option of remaining with the Customs Bureau or of joining the Federal Police. Instead, the Government has left it to Federal Police Com-

Instead, the Government has left it to Federal Police Commissioner Sir Colin Woods to decide whom he wants. Those not wanted will remain in the Customs Bureau.

The Government has wiped

The Government has wiped its hands of the Narcotics Bureau and left Sir Colin to clean up the mess.

Disbandment Decision Scored

Melbourne THE AGE in English 14 Nov 79 p 5

[Text] A public service union yesterday criticised the Federal Government's decision to scrap the Narcotics Bureau.

The Federal secretary and treasurer of the Australian Public Service Association (fourth division officers), Mr. Brian McMullan said the Government had displayed "a disgusting insensitivity and discourtesy".

"The Government neither consulted nor advised the AFSA on its decision even though this decision vitally affected employment of our members," he said.

Check on Narcotics Men

Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 17 Nov 79 p 7

[Text]

CANBERRA: The Australian Federal Police liams.
Commissioner, Sir Colin The bureau's police functions were transpersonal evaluation of every officer of the former federal narcotics bureau.

The bureau was disbanded by the Government last week after a recommendation by the royal commissioner into by the end of the month.

FIVE ITALIAN-BORN DRUG OFFENDERS ORDERED DEPORTED

Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 9 Nov 79 p 3

[Text] Canberra. -- The Minister for Immigration and Ethnic Affairs, Mr Mackellar, has ordered the deportation of five Italian-born men who have been convicted of drug-related offenses.

The orders were issued between August 1978 and September this year--long before the release on Tuesday of the report of the NSW Royal Commission into Drug Trafficking.

A spokesman for the minister named the five yesterday as Mr Luigi Pochi, Mr Giuseppe Sergi (born 1916), Mr Vincenzo Barbaro, Mr Saverio Barbaro and Mr Vincenzo Piscioneri. He offered no other identification of the five, other than that some had been in Australia since the 1950s.

_

The deportation orders had been issued because the men had all been convicted in recent years of "drug-related offences" which carried jail terms of more than one year.

All five have appealed to the Administrative Appeals Tribunal, which has since recommended the revocation of the orders against Mr Pochi and Mr Sergi.

However, the minister's spokesman said the Government had rejected the tribunal's recommendations.

The appeal by the other men is still pending.

Mr MacKellar has not yet directed the deportation orders to be put into effect.

Ellinor Grassby, wife of the Commissioner for Community Relations, said vesterday her friendship with a 44-year-old Calabrian named in the NSW Royal Commission report would continue until he was proven guilty.

Antonio Sergi was named in the report as the major supervisor of the large number of cannabis crops being grown in the Griffith area.

The commission also said Sergi had links with the clandest ine "Honoured Society" based in Calabria, southern Italy.

Mrs Grassby, who lives in Sydney but has spent most of her life in the Riverina. said she would not condemn Sergi until the commission's allegations were proven and not based on hearsay.

"And, if there is proof, then the man should pay the penalty."

She was totally opposed to any type of drugs and believed all pushers should be jailed for life.

Regarding the disappearance 24 years ago of the anti-drugs, crusader, Mr Don Mackey, Mrs Grassby said she had country prayed that he would turn up unharmed.

Mrs Barbara Mackay said in Griffith yesterday that the Woodward report was "the first step along a long, hard road."

"I feel an awareness that it

is a long step to arresting and convicting anybody," she said.

Her first feeling after the release of the report was one of relief that the things that a few people knew and a lot of people suspected had been given credence.

There was also a feeling of relief that the report was not a 'whitewash" as some people had said it would be.

She said she did not agree with Mr Grassby that the report would inflame racist problems.

"I believe that Italians from all areas are hard-working, fine citizens, admired and re-spected in the community and that they are particularly anxious to see that justice is done."

Mr Grassby said yesterday he had referred the Royal Commission report to his assistant commissioner and ordered the monitoring of all media reports on the commission to watch for any reference to ethnic groups.

When asked of his friendship with Antonio Sergi. Mr Grassby said he had "hundreds of thousands of friends in the Riverina."

The Deputy Prime Minister. Mr Anthony, said in Federal Parliament yesterday that he had received quick agreement from the NSW Premier, Mr Wran, to the establishment of a central drug intelligence unit.

The need for such a unit was recommended in the NSW drug report and in the interim report of the Australian Royal Commission into Drugs, also issued on Tuesday.

All States will be asked to discuss the proposal.

GOVERNMENT URGED TO INCREASE REHABILITATION EFFORTS

Melbourne THE AGE in English 12 Nov 79 p 11

[Editorial: "Drug Work Needs Co-ordination"]

[Text]

IN its report released last week, the NSW Royal Commission into drugs concentrated heavily on the criminal aspects of drug trafficking. According to Mr. Justice Woodward, this has become a huge and thriving business which the various Australian law enforcement agencies are apparently unable to contain. This being so, no one will dispute the argument that the traffickers (particularly those dealing in hard drugs such as heroin) should be hunted down and brought to justice. In the process, though, our Governments, both State and Federal, should not lose sight of the victims - those who have already succumbed to the destructive drug-taking habit. The Woodward commission estimated the number of current addicts in NSW alone at 9250. Other estimates put the number even higher. Extend these figures to the rest of Australia, and it is clear that we have a major social problem on our hands.

Various drug rehabilitation programmes have been set up in an effort to combat the ravages of the drug-taking habit. Some are under Government auspices; others are private. The Age' is at present conducting an appeal for one of them — Odyssey, which Mr. Justice Woodward described in his report as "a programme of integrity". One of the strengths of the Odyssey programme is that it is drug-free. There is also a very strong emphasis on self-discipline and personal growth. A further virtue of the programme is that those who undertake it promise on graduation to spend some time working with addicts themselves, so repaying the community for the time and money invested in their own cure.

CSO: 5300

This is not to say that other organisations working in the same field — or at least some of them — do not have a case for financial help as well. They probably do. The problem for Governments is to decide which of them are the most effective, and therefore warrant continuing support. In Victoria, drug rehabilitation centres and programmes have tended to spring up on an ad hoc basis. The time has now come for a more systematised and co-ordinated approach to the problem. Mr. Justice Woodward said as much in his report when he called for a three-year plan by Governments for the organisation and funding of drug treatment centres.

The Hamer Government is already committed to subsidising the operating costs of Odyssey on a three-to-one basis. But it should not let this commitment stand in the way of an investigation of the wider needs and value (or otherwise) of all the various groups presently involved in the drug treatment field. As the community has lately come to realise, hard drug addiction is a destructive and cancerous influence on individuals and their families. It is mostly a problem of the young (unlike alcoholism which tends to be the province of the middle-aged or elderly), and it often leads to early death. But the repercussions of hard drug addiction are also felt within the community at large. For the habit is an expensive one; and to maintain it untreated addicts frequently resort to theft, robbery, prostitution or fraud. For all these reasons it is imperative that the Government act to increase the efforts being made in rehabilitation as well as the crime prevention field.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN EXPERT EXAMINES WOODWARD REPORT

Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 16 Nov 79 p 7

[Feature, "Insight", by Professor Ronald Sackville]

[Text] [SYDNEY MORNING HERALD editor's note: "Professor Ronald Sackville, Dean of the Faculty of Law at the University of NSW, headed a Royal Commission into drugs for the South Australian Government. He brought down his report in May. Here, he takes a critical look at aspects of the NSW Royal Commission conducted by Mr Justice Woodward, whose interim report was released last week.]

THE REACTION to the report of Mr Justice Woodward on drug trafficking reveals very clearly how far the "drug problem" in Aus-tralia is one of widespread misunderstanding by the community of the issues and of political over-reaction to the "drug menace."

The sensational aspects of the report, including allegations of organised drug trafficking and, indeed, murder by ethnic groups have been given lavish treatment in the media, rein-forcing the simplistic view forcing the simplistic view that the drug problem is essentially a matter of detectessentially a matter of detecting and prosecuting a small group of dealers in prohibited drugs, notably heroin and cannabis.

The editorials have called for firm action, specifically harsher criminal penalties, to stamp out illegal drug traffick-

The NSW Government, not wanting to appear unrespon-sive to the public demand for action to combat traffickers, immediately announced higher maximum penalties for serious drug offences.

The announcement of its decision to raise the maximum fine for these offences from \$50,000 to \$200,000, as recommended by the commission, did not mention the report's express acknowledgment that heavy fines, although attrac-tive in theory, in practice are difficult to enforce and have little deterrent value.

The Government decided to increase the maximum period of imprisonment, even though the commission rejected such a move, precisebecause (in the commissioner's words) it is "fallacious to believe that heavier penalties will automatically lead to a reduction in illicit trafficking or abuse" (p 1839).

There is no indication that any but a few of the editorial-ists or commentators have understood a fundamental point made by the commisison: that there are limits to what the criminal law can achieve in this and other areas and that it is "unrealistic" even to aspire to, let alone expect, the elimination of illegal drug dealing (p 1887). That the report should be

so massively misunderstood is

hardly surprising - from the nardy surprising — from the very beginning there was no chance that the commission would be able to present the "drug problem" in its proper perspective.

The circumstances sur-rounding the establishment of the commission—as a direct response to what was widely assumed to be the murder of Donald Mackay in Griffith— were calculated to present the problem simply in terms of organised criminal activity.

This was reinforced by the terms of reference, which not only required the commissioner to concentrate on the illegal supply and distribution of "drugs of addiction" but to report on the identity of those engaging in the illegal trade.

All of this made it inevitable, that the commission

able that the commission would concentrate only on one aspect of the regulation of drug use in Australia. Mr Justice Woodward chose to focus his inquiries even more sharply by narrowly interpret-ing the terms of reference to exclude broad policy ques-tions, except to the extent that they concerned enforcement of the criminal law.

Within the narrowly interpreted terms of reference, the report emphasises almost exclusively the illegal trade in heroin and cannabis, showing little insight into the complex patterns of drug-taking by compulsive users.

Even from a law enforcement perspective, one would have expected close attention to be paid to the supply of prescription drugs, including opiate narcotics and barbiturates, to drug-dependent persons by doctors and hospitals.

Medical personnel are the (usually) unwitting suppliers of a large volume of drugs used by people who correspond to the common perception of "addicts."

More fundamentally, by concentrating on the illicit trade in cannabis and heroin the commission reinforces the basic community misconcepbasic community misconcep-tion that the drug problem largely, if not exclusively, revolves around the distri-bution and use of these particular drugs.

In fact, as the South Australian Royal Commission showed in its final report, the situation is infinitely more complex, involving a great range of drugs and of drug-

The Woodward report does recognise, if only intermittently, that the issues need to be understood in a broader context and that law enforcement is only one facet of the community response to drug

use.

The report accepts, for example, that "in terms of social cost, alcohol is the most widely abused and socially and physically damag-

ing drug in use."

By acknowledging that law enforcement techniques can-not eliminate the illicit drug trade or the misuse of drugs, the report concedes that there are limits to the effect the criminal law, even if rigorously enforced, can be expected to have on patterns of drug-

The report also recognises that the problems associated with the supply and use of drugs are not such as to warrant significant departures from basic civil liberties long

enjoyed by Australians.

The difficulty is that, while the report pays lip service to these points, the thrust of the report is inconsistent with them. This is most clearly seen in the detailed examination of the affairs of in-dividuals alleged to have been involved in drug-related offences.

The examination constitutes the bulk of the report and leads the commissioner to conclude, among other things, that Donald Mackay was "disposed of by members of, or on behalf of" an organisation of Calabrian cannabis growers (n. 1948) (p 1938).

It is, of course, true that is commissioner was compelled by his terms of reference to undertake inquiries into the activities of individuals suspected of trafficking.

But the costly and exhaustive examination of allegations of drug dealing, conspiracy and murder against specific individuals lends weight to the public perception of the drug problem as essentially one stemming from trafficking in two prohibited drugs.

It therefore does little to advance public understanding of the drug problem or to encourage the community to come to grips with the difficult task of developing a coherent policy for the regulation of drug use in Australia.

Moreover, the commission's investigations, involving the use of extraordinary powers to interrogate and require the production of documents, raise basic questions about the propriety of using an inquiry of this kind to reach and publish conclusions about the culpability of persons who are denied the traditional safe-guards of the criminal trial.

These questions are particularly acute where the commission records findings that persons have committed or participated in extremely serious offences, yet does not recommend that they be charged with an offence, but merely that further inquiries be made "to examine the possibility of criminal charges being brought."

Ironically the commission's own report argues against this kind of investigation, in rejecting the Police Department's submission that suspected drug offenders should be subjected to compulsory intercognition. to compulsory interrogation procedures, similar to those employed by corporate investigators (used in the investigation into the Sinclair companies).

The report argues that there are serious objections to such extraordinary procedures.
They substantially undermine the adversary system of criminal justice which operates in Australia; they involve serious departures from accepted standards of fair play; and there is no guarantee that they will be effective (pp 1772-1773).

Yet these objections can be applied to the commission's own procedures, specifically the publication of detailed evidence concerning persons found by the commission to have been involved in serious criminal offences.

The objections become even stronger when it is remembered that the commission expressly stated that it did not regard its proceedings as a trial and therefore did not have to be satisfied beyond reasonable doubt before mak-

reasonable doubt before making adverse findings (p 569). It was enough for the commissioner to be "satisfied reasonably," a standard providing less protection to the accused person than the usual criminal standard of proof.

The result is that some people have been labelled as conspirators and, it would seem, as murderers, not only without the usual safeguards

without the usual safeguards

afforded at a criminal trial. but following the exercise of extraordinary powers of investigation and the application of a lesser standard of proof.

The report attempts to justify this on the ground that Royal Commissions are not permanent bodies and are established temporarily for specific inquiries (p 1783), but this hardly answers the issue of principle.

It is therefore especially interesting to note that the commissioner expressly endorses the Bar Council's criticism of the tabling of the report of the special investigation into the Sinclair companies before the trial as a "grave threat to the proper administration of justice" (p 1655).

This endorsement is hard to reconcile with the commission's own approach to the matters within its terms of reference and with the assertion elsewhere in the report that the drug problem is not such as to warrant serious infringement of fundamental civil liberties.

None of this is to suggest that the Woodward report is without value. The report, in Volume 3, analyses carefully

and with considerable insight policy questions relating to the detection of drug-related offences.

The commission's line on such issues as compulsory interrogation, police powers of search and seizure and the use of informers, is by no means illiberal and represents a fair balance of the competing interests, although the arguments put forward are not always consistent with the approach taken elsewhere in the report.

It is very important that, as passions abate, the Woodward report is understood and assessed within the broader framework established in Australia by the work of the Senate Standing Committee on Social Welfare and the South Australian Royal Commission.

The sensational reaction to the Woodward report should not obscure the need to develop systematic and carefully considered policies for the control of drug use and better community understanding of the issues,

Simple solutions are superficially attractive. The reality is that there is nothing simple about the drug problem.

NEW SOUTH WALES INCREASING PENALTIES FOR DRUG OFFENSES

Melbourne THE AGE in English 17 Nov 79 p 16

[Text]

SYDNEY. — Drug traffickers will face a maximum penalty of \$200,000 under legislation planned to be rushed through the New South Wales Parliament within a fortnight.

a fortnight.

The Premier, Mr. Wran, announced yesterday that Cabinet had approved the increased fines in line with the recommendations of the Woodward Royal Commission into drug trafficking.

He said the Government would try to gazette the legislation before the end of this month. The legislation will take the form of amendments to the poisons Act.

poisons Act.

They will allow for a maximum penalty of \$200,000 for all indictable offences relating to narcotics and marijuana. These offences currently carry penalties of up to \$50,000 and indictable offences relating to marijuana, a maximum of \$25,000.

"The amendments follow the State Government's pledge to act urgently in regard to the findings of Mr. Justice Woodward in the Royal Commission into drug trafficking," Mr. Wran said yesterday.

The Government would also hold discussions with the Federal Government on the possibility of establishing uniform sentences throughout Australia for drug-related offences.

He said the State Health Minister, Mr. Stewart, would ask that the matter be debated at the Health Minister's conference in May next year.

The planned amendments will give ma-gistrates the power to decide whether an offence is indictable and war-rants a higher penalty This decision is now made by police prosecutors.

STATEMENT ON DRUG USE IN ARMED FORCES CALLED MISLEADING

Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 21 Nov 79 p 15

[Text]

The Senate had been misled in an answer given by the
Minister for Defence, Mr
Killen, on the incidence of
alcoholism and drug addiction in the armed forces, the
Opposition Leader in the
Senate, Senator Wriedt, claimed yesterday.

He asked the Leader of the Government, Senator Carrick, to investigate the answer given to the Deputy Leader of the Opposition in the Senate, Senator Button, on June 8.

Mr Killen had told Senator Button that there were "no detailed statistics on the incidence of alcoholism and drug addiction detected by medical officers in any of the services."

But a meazine article this

But a magazine article this month quotes a series of statistics showing that in the 18 months to August, 129 servicemen were dismissed from the services for hard drug offences.

Of 1071 bard drug cases the

Of 1.071 hard drug cases detected between 1975 and 1977. the figures show 519 involved Army personnel. 307 the RAAF, and 245 the RAN.

RAAF, and 245 the RAN.

The figures show also that in 1977, 114 of the Army's 139 cases involved the use of marihuana, four heroin, four LSD, three morphine, and six cocaine, Mandrax, opium, Valium, or pethidine. Of the Navy's 116 cases that year, 114 involved marihuana, one heroin, and one Mandrax, and of the RAAF's 116 cases, 97 involved marihuana.

FEDERAL POLICE SEIZE HEROIN IN MELBOURNE RAID

Melbourne THE AGE in English 21 Nov 79 p 3

[Report by Ian Hanke]

[Text] Heroin valued at more than \$175,000 has been seized by Federal police in a raid on the Victoria Hotel, Melbourne.

It is the first drug seizure by the Federal police since the recent Federal Government decision to dismantle the Narcotics Bureau.

Police said two men, a 23-year-old Australian from Melbourne and a 24-year-old Thai national, were arrested in the raid on Mon-day night.

The heroin had been smuggled into Australia that day, police

said.

According to Mr. Brian Ridley, a special member of the Australian Federal Police, the 140 grams of heroin had been smuggled through Sydney customs concealed on the Thai.

He said the 80 per cent pure heroin was in 10 condoms and inserted into the man's rectum.

By the time the heroin hit the streets it would probably have been diluted to about 10 per cent purity.

purity.

The raid was the culmination of three months' investigation into

a syndicate which had been smuggling drugs into the country this way, Mr. Ridley said.

This method of smuggling was the safest for drug couriers because it was difficult to detect.

He said the syndicate was well organised, but it was difficult to assess its size.

Mr. Ridley, a former narcotics agent, said the raid would defuse rumors that there would be a six-month open season for drug runners after the absorption of the Narcotics Bureau into the Australian Federal Police.

The two men, who made brief court appearances in the Melbourne Magistrates Court at 10 am yesterday, were remanded in custody to Decemer 18, to appear in the same court on charges of possession of heroin.

COMMISSION INVESTIGATES DRUG ACTIVITIES IN QUEENSLAND

Background of Investigation

Melbourne THE AGE in English 23 Nov 79 p 18

[Report from Richard Willis]

[Text] CAIRNS. — Queensland, the Sunshine State, has become the focal point of the dark, sinister, drug racket.

The tentacles of the drug network have wound their way up from New South Wales and Victoria to clutch at this vast State, its Par-liament, authorities and people.

During the past two weeks Queensland has been rocked by allegations of politicians and policemen being involved in drug rackets.

Parliamentary debate on the issue has at times bor-dered on the ludicrous, but nagging in the background is the cliche "where there is smoke, there is fire".

Allegations made in the Queensland Parliament have included:

- The names of State and Federal politicians re-corded on the disbanded Federal Narcotics Bureau files.
- Mysterious planes landing on remote airstripe in the north.
- Money being laundered through businesses in Cairns and other cities to the south.
- Mysterious deaths of people involved in drug in-vestigations, including a policeman.

- Drug investigations covered up and Press reports of a coroner's inquest into the policeman's
- death being suppressed.

 Police officers transferred from drug-associated areas following raids of marijuana plantations.
- of Charter flights between Australia and Papua New Guinea importing drugs and illegally exporting wildlife.

 Connections between
- Griffith and the small tobacco growing town of Mareeba 60 kilometres south-west of Cairns.
- Visits to Mareeba by Antonio Sergi who was named in the Justice Wood-ward Royal Commission re-
- Quantities of marijuana taken in drug raids disap-pearing from police stations or watchbouses in northern Queensland.

Queensland.

Perhaps the most start-ling aspect of many of the Queensland allegations is their similarity to allegations made in 1976 and 1977 about the Riverina town of Griffith in NSW.

Before the Woodward Royal Commission was appointed in August, 1977, by the NSW Premier, Mr. Neville Wran there were allegations of police involvement in drug rackets, large scale laundering of money, mysterious deaths or

people missing, police transferals and strange flights by light aircraft.

Mareeba, like Griffith, is a productive region.

Both areas are renowned for quality soil, abundant water supply, large scale production of vegetables and small intensive farms.

tables and small inteneive farms.

The townships are surrounded by vast isolated areas. Griffith has the barren plains while Mareeba is surrounded by deep, tropical rain forests.

Like Griffith, Mareeba has a high percentage of Italians, and both townshave been extensively reported in the Press for being drug-growing areas.

The Queensland affair was rekindled on November 7, the day after the Woodward report was tabled in the NSW Parliament and the disbandment of the Federal Narcotics Bureau in Canherra. Canberra.

Similar allegations had been bandled around in the Queensland Parliament late last year, but without the sensationalism of politicians and police being involved.

and police being involved:

An officer with the Brisbane branch of the narcotics bureau was interviewed by an Ipswich radio station on November 7.

The officer, who gave his name as Paul, said he knew of two Queensland State po-

liticians whose names were on a narcotics bureau file.

But the real crunch came in Parliament when the Leader of the Opposition, Mr. Edmund Casey, used information from Paul to name one of the politicians as the Justice Minister Mr. Bill Lickiss.

Mr. Casey did not name the second politician but said it was a Cabinet Minister.

The officer and some of his colleagues in the narco-tics bureau also talked with other sections of the media but so far no one in the Queensland Press or Parliament has seen the files in

The officers said they had the backing of their bureau and it was after this that Paul agreed to talk to Mr. Casey and his staff.

The officers also named a number of high-ranking police officers on narcotics bureau files.

After Mr. Casey's speech Mr. Ray Jones (Labor, Cairns) toid Parliament he had been told the names of one State and two Federal politicians "accused of association and alignment, as I have said all along, with people involved in drug trafficking in far north Queensland".

Those named — Senator Glen Shiel, Mr. David Thomson (National Parety, Leichbardt), and Mr. Martin Tenni (National Party Barron River), and Justice Minister Lickiss — hotly denied any involvement in drug trafficking or with drug-related people.

Despite the allegations in the media and Parliament last week the Premier, Mr. Bjelke - Petersen, adamantly resisted calls for either an extension of the Federal royal commission into drugs or a state commission.

But in a major turnabout that caught the Labor Op-position off guard, Mr. Bjelke-Petersen announced on Tuesday he would ask Mr. Justice Williams to ex-

tend his commission and look into the allegations against police and politicians in Queensland.

Mr. Justice Williams accepted the invitation.

The Federal Transport The Federal Transport Minister, Mr. Nixon, has also taken an interest in reports of unidentified aircraft, particularly a DC-3, landing on isolated strips along the northern Queensland coast.

Mr. Nixon has announced a Department of Transport inquiry into the operation and status of a number of charter aircraft companies.

He must also be concern-He must also be concerned about allegations in Parliament that McDougall Airways, which has a government contract to operate a coast watch between Cairns and Broome, has been linked with drugrunning between Australia and Papua New Guinea.

It is difficult to determine the truth in the allegations about the Queensland drug racket, but there is no doubt that similar allegations about Griffith in 1978 and 1977 have been exonerated by Mr. Justice Woodward's reconst ward's report.

The coroner's inquest into the death in Mareeba last year of Senior Constable J. Connor was closed to the Press and the findings have been suppressed.

Connor was found shot in his car outside the International Club, Mareeba, last October,

There were also serious questions about the death of an Aboriginal police tracker who drowned while helping in a drug investigation on the Atherton Tableland.

Neville Brian Burns was found face-up in a stream and a post-mortem exam-ination showed he had been struck on the back of his head.

The Police Minister, Mr. Camm. told Parliament last

year that Burns had drowned.

He said: "No suspicious circumstances were dis-closed . . " after an in-vestigation by two senior police officers.

On June 28 last year the body of Reinder Djakaria Jacobi was found wedged between bread trays in the back of a van on an irriga-tion farm near Mareeba.

Mr. Camm again said a top-level police investigacircumstances.

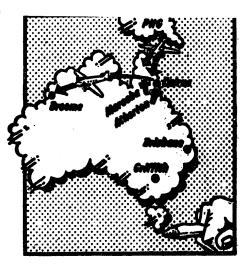
Mr. Camm admitted that a bale of marijuana had disappeared from a police watchhouse in northern Queensland.

Northern Queensland has long been considered the "tunnel" for an international drug-smuggling ring bring-ing heroin to Australia.

Perhaps Federal Trans-port Department investiga-

tions will shed some light on this.

Concrete evidence has not gone before the Queens-land Parliament, but a lot of smoke has blown around and certainly the allegations deserve investigation.



Airline, Mafia Links Alleged

Brisbane THE COURIER-MAIL in English 22 Nov 79 p 23

[Text] An airline which had the Federal Government contract for coastal surveillance allegedly was linked with drug running activities in north Queensland, State Parliament has been told.

The Opposition Leader (Mr. Casey) who made the allegations late on Tuesday night, also claimed the American Mafia was involved in a heroin-bird smuggling shuttle service between San Francisco, south-east Asia and Queensland.

Mr. Casey's claims were made during a debate on the drug issue.

It was initiated by the Police Minister Mr. Camm) who called on the Opposition to name politicians and police al-leged to be involved in drug trafficking activi-

Mr. Casey named the Justice Minister and Attorney General (Mr. Lickiss) and Mr. Jones (A.L.P., Cairns) named (Mr. Tenni (N.P., Barron River) and the Federal Member for Leichhardt (Mr. D. Thompson) and National Party Senator Glenister Sheil.

Glenister Sheil.
Mr. Casey said a John
Edward Milligan, a notorious Sydney criminal,
was a key director of a
northern drug ring with
connections to drug operators in Sydney, Brisbane and the Gold Coast.
He said drugs
smuggled in from Asia on
lonely, unnamed northern airstrips were trans-

ern airstrips were trans-ported south from Cairns by commercial aircraft.

Night flights

Light aircraft, which did an unusual amount of night flying in the Bloomfield - Rossville areas south of Cooktown. also were used on occa-sions, Mr Casey said.

A report given to Federal authorities on November 12 reported an unidentified flight a few days earlier at 2.30 am. in the Bloomfield River

area.
"I am informed that in that area recently similar night flights have numbered at least six, with others probably going completely undetected," he said.

It was scarcely coincidental that Gary Julian Burnell, a pilot who flew into and out of these strips, and Richard Brian strips, and Richard Brian Murphy — both of whom had tin mining ventures in the region — had been named in the New South Wales Royal Commission report in regard to illegal drug flights.

Mr. Casey said there was another person, named Harold Meyer, a light aircraft service op-erator, who was at Rossville.

He had a preference

for night flying, particularly into and out of the Tablelands drug-grow-

ing areas.

Mr. Casey said Meyer also went south from time time for business meetings.

Another interesting factor was the activities of three air companies.

They were Cooktown
Air Services Pty, Ltd.,
Seaplane Charter and
McDougall Airways.

There was another named Lobegeiger Hold-ings Pty. Ltd. which was registered at Springwood, on Brisbane's southern outskirts.

outskirts.

Mr. C asey said
McDougall Airways was
operated by Mr. Doug
McDougall, a Gar dealer
of Edmonton. He had
associates in Mareeba
and was a close friend of
Gary Burnell, the pilot
mentioned in the Woodward report for illegally
flying people into and
out of North Queensland.

out of North Queensland.
Burnell had operated
Northern Air. Pty. Ltd.
"So closely were these
men associated with each
other that at one time he
(Burnell) used to borrow
McDougall's aircraft,"
Mr. Casey said.
Mr. Casey said
McDougall Airlines had
the Federal Government
d u g-surveillance one

drug-surveillance con-

tract. "There is every reason There is every reason to believe that McDougall Airways is associated with the people who have in fact been involved in the drug involved in scene," he said.

Transport Department Inquiry

Melbourne THE AGE in English 22 Nov 79 p 3

[Report from Richard Willis in Brisbane and Kerry Wakefield in Canberra]

[Text] The Federal Transport Department has ordered an inquiry into allegations of drug running and bird smuggling by charter aircraft companies.

The Transport Minister, Mr. Nixon, has ordered an inquiry into the status and operation of some air charter companies operateing in north Queensland.

land.

The inquiry follows allegations in the Queensland Parliament of planes landing on isolated airstrips carrying drugs into Australia, and smuggling native birds out of the country to America.

The allegations, by the Leader of the Opposition in Queensland, Mr. Edmund Casey, have caused an uproar in the State Parliament over the past two days. Mr. Casey and the Labor member for Cairns, Mr. Ray Jones, also claimed that the names of four politicians appeared on Narfour politicians appeared on Nar-cotics Bureau files.

Mr. Casey said a convicted Sydney heroin trafficker had named Queensland Justice Minister, Mr. Lickiss, during a taped inter-view with Narcotics Bureau offic-

view with Narcottes bareau oncers in Sydney.

Mr. Casey claimed that Mr. Lickiss had protected some solicitors, allegedly involved in drug trafficking, from investigation.

Denials

Mr. Jones told Parliament that the names of Mr. Martin Tenni (National Party-Barron River) and Federal politicians Senator Shiel and Mr. Thomson (National Party-Leichardt) had been listed on Narcotics Bureau files. The four politicians issued strong denials.

Mr. Casey, speaking on a Government motion in Parliament, said two pilots, Neville William Walsh and Gary Julien Burnell, flew regularly to Papua New Guinea and brought plane loads of drugs into Queensland.

"On at least one occasion, heroin trafficker John Milligan accompanied these men on the New Guinea trip," Mr. Casey

given evidence before the Wood-

ward Royal Commission into drug trafficking in New South Wales, "operated Northern Air Pty. Ltd." Mr. Casay also mentioned three other air charter services—Cook-town Air Services Pty. Ltd., Sea-plane Charter and McDougall

Contract

Mr. Casey and the Federal Op-position Leader, Mr. Hayden, in Federal Parliament, both said that McDougall Airlines had the drug surveillance contract with the Fe-

deral Government.
The Federal Transport Minister,
Mr. Nixon, denied that McDougan
had a contract for customs surveillance.

Airlines Deny Links

Brisbane THE COURIER-MAIL in English 23 Nov 79 p 16

[Text] Cairns.--Operators of McDougall Airways and Seaplane Charter denied yesterday they were involved in drug running in northern Queensland.

The two companies were named on Tuesday by the State Opposition Leader (Mr. Casey) during a debate on the drug issue in State Parliament.

But two airline officials in Cairns said the firm did have a contract. It was mainly connected with quarantine matters rather than drugs.

Mr. Casey told the Queensland Parliament a DC-3 aircraft had been seen on several occasions flying into isolated airstrips in north Queensland.

He said the DC-3 brought drugs into Australia from Thailand, picked up a load of birds, flew to Jakarta to get a clearance, and then flew to San Francisco.

John Milligan, the man named by Mr. Casey as a heroin traffick-er, is now in Sydney's Long Bay jail on drug trafficking convic-

For three years up to about 1970 he was judge's associate to former Queensland district court judge, Mr. George Seaman.

A Crown Law Department spokesman said Milligan, who was educated in Queensland, told the department he had attended Geelong Grammar School.

 Nigel Wilson reports from Canberra that the Williams Royal
Commission on drugs will investigate claims that four politicians are linked with drug trafficers.

The Queensland Government yesterday asked the commission to bring down an urgent report on the allegations.

7

Mf. Casey alleged Mr. McDougall of McDougall of McDougall, Airways was a close friend of Gary Burnell, the pilot mentioned in the Woodward Report for flying people illegally into and out of northern Queensland. Mr. McDougall said yesterday he had known Mr. Burnell for many years but had no idea he was connected with drug activities land. Mr. activities. He said that when Mr. He said that when Mr.
Burnell started Northern
Air Pty. Ltd., he needed
aircraft and Mr.
McDougall hired him one. When Mr. Burnell sold his air charter business operators, the new own-ers decided against oper-ating in Cairns. Mr. McDougail said that two months ago he purchased Mr. months ago he purchased the business and began operation as McDougall Air Services.

Mr. Trevor Douglas said his company records, trip records, financial and bank statements were available at any time for Mr. Casey.

Mr. Douglas said he would like Mr. Casey to substantiate his statesubstantiate his statement. Mr. Douglas and Mr. McDougall called for an inquiry into the allegations.

Parent Company's Denial

Melbourne THE AGE in English 24 Nov 79 p 16

[From the "Federal Parliament" feature: "Sleigh: "No Drug Links"]

[Text]

H. C. Sleigh Ltd. has denied any connection with companies named in Queensland and Federal Parliament as being possibly connected with drug trafficking.

Senator Keeffe (ALP, Qld.), told the Senate he wanted to "set the record straight" relating to a question he asked on Wednesday.

Tuesday night as being pos-sibly involved in the drug trade.

Executive Air Services' is a subsidiary of H. C. Sleigh, which said in a statement "each person employed by the company on surveillance duties is security cleared arrougn normal Government channels.

"At no time has H. C. Sleigh Aviation Limited (formerly named Executive day.

In it he asked whether the
Government was aware that
McDougall Airlines, which
operated coastal surveillance services under subcontract to Executive Air
Services, was one of the air
charter companies named in
Queensland Parliament on

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Queensland Premier's Remarks

Canberra THE AUSTRALIAN in English 23 Nov 79 p 3

[Report from Joe Begley]

[Text]

THE Queensland Premier, Mr Bjelke-Petersen, will present information to the Australian Royal Commission of Inquiry into Drugs which he hopes will implicate Labor MPs in the drug trade.

He told State Parliament yesterday that some Labor MPs were "vigorous supporters and great champions of drug traffickers in Queensland".

He named the Leader of the Federal Opposition, Mr Hayden, Queensland Labor senators George Georges, Jim Keeffe and Mal Colston, and three State Labor frontbenchers as supporters of illegal drug activities.

The State MPs were Mr Keith Wright and Mr Les Yewdale, of Rockhampton, and Mr Ray Jones, of Cairns.

He said: "They all supported those involved in the Cedar Bay drug operation and complained about the way police smashed it."

Four years ago, Queensland police were condemned for the way they raided a commune at Cedar Bay in far north Queensland looking for drugs.

Mr Bjelke-Petersen told Par-

liament it was hypercritical for Labor members to speak of wanting an inquiry into the involvement of Government members in the drug scene.

He said: "They (A.L.P. members) are on record for defending known drug offenders. They have denigrated police efforts to deal with these drug pushers and drug criminals.

"It's recorded in Hansard here and in Federal Parliament so you can't get out of it.

"The Queensland Labor Party is completely and utterly involved in the drug trafficking trade in this State."

Reaction in Mareeba

Melbourne THE AGE in English 24 Nov 79 p 5

[Report from Richard Willis]

[Text]

CAIRNS. — The people of Mareeba are fairly casual about their town being branded "the new drug capital of Australia".

Most agree that marijuana is grown in the area, and that many strange things related to the industry have occurred.

But the same people will tell you that Marceba is a small part of the drug network that is spread throughout the vast isolated outback areas of Queens-

Mareeba, population 6500, is

a farm-intensive area with tobacco, fruit and vegetables as its main industries. It is set in the middle of dense tropical rainforests high on a plateau, 60 kilometres west of Cairns.

The people I talked to in the street, business houses, hotels, and clubs, all told similar stories.

They agreed that allegations made in the Queensland Parliament this week about police involvement were probably correct, but they laughed and totally discounted the possibility of politicians being involved in drug rackets.

One businessman, former policeman Fred Frazer, told me one of the most puzzling aspects of the drug allegations was the fact that the findings of a coroner's inquest into the death of Mareeba policeman Senior Constable J. Connor have been suppressed.

Mr. Frazer said there were many stories about his death and many questions that had not been answered.

Senior Constable Connor was found shot dead in his car outside the International Club, Mareeba, in October last year. Mr. Frazer said Antonio Sergi, the Griffith winery owner named in the Woodward Royal Commission visited Marceba at least once a year and stayed in the Jackeroo Motel.

"One of the big things that worries me is the number of guns in this area. After one drug raid police even found a number of armalite rifles in a shed," Mr. Frazer said.

"I used to sell guns in my shop window but they kept getting stolen. In fact, at one time my shop was knocked off four times in three months." A road worker for the shire office said the drug industry was common knowledge in Mareeba.

He said: "What is laughable is that they will never stop it. The whole industry is too big now. The authorities should be concentrating on the heroin and bird smuggling trade.

"It is well known to people here that light planes come and go as they like in the outback. There are strips on isolated stations, old disused strips along the coast, and I even know of a

DC-3 being put down on the Black Plains.

"Obviously the key to the trade is the smuggling of fauna out of the country and then the planes come back with heroin."

In Canberra, the Foreign Affairs Minister, Mr. Peacock, said last night that Australia was now a prominent target for international drug dealers.

Mr. Peacock said drug smuggling and the inevitable human waste and misery of drug addiction were now part and parcel of the darker side of Australian society.

Investigation Begins

Brisbane THE COURIER-MAIL in English 28 Nov 79 p 19

[Text] Drug inquiry investigators yesterday questioned the Opposition Leader (Mr. Casey) concerning his allegations about the Queensland narcotics trade.

They spoke briefly with Mr. Casey at Parliament House in what he termed later "preliminary discussions."

The move is the first arising out of the State Government's request that the Federal inquiry into drugs look at specific Opposition allegations.

Mr. Casey has associated the Justice Minister (Mr. Lickiss) with people linked to the drug trade and identified small airlines operating in northern Queensland.

Labor Member for Cairns (Mr. Jones) has named Mr. Tenni (Barron River), the Federal Member for Leichhardt (Mr. Thomson) and Senator G. Shiel, all of the National Party.

The four politicians and the airline companies have since denied the allegations made in a Government-initiated debate following Opposition claims.

The Premier (Mr.

Bjelke-Petersen) has since said that he will supply the inquiry with allegations concerning Labor Party politicians.

Yesterday, Mr. C. E. K. Hampson, Q.C., counsel assisting the Federal inquiry, said investigators would see Mr. Casey and Mr. Jones.

"They have made public statements and the officers will see them first to see what personal knowledge they have and if they can assist," he said.

Anyone with personal or direct knowledge concerning drigs could give information, in confidence, to the inquiry.

They should contact the commission's Brisbane office which would arrange, initially, talks through a lawyer.

Mr. Hampson said that he expected Mr. Justice Williams, who will head the inquiry, would hope to bring in the special report by early February, Brisbane Newspaper Comment

Brisbane THE COURIER-MAIL in English 22 Nov 79 p 4

[Editorial: "Extended Drug Inquiry"]

[Text]

TATE Cabinet has acted correctly in deciding to ask Mr. Justice Williams to extend his Royal Commission into drugs to cover allegations that Queensland politicians and police are involved.

The Opposition's accusations against named politicians are vague. They appear to be an attempt to suggest guilt by association, and have been strongly denied by the Members cited.

However, when Parliamentarians, and particularly a Minister, are the subject of such charges, the fullest inquiry is needed. That is fair not only to the public but to the named Members.

The injection of party politics into the issue has been unfortunate. It is all the more reason for the inquiry to be conducted at a high level, to be impartial, and to be seen by the public as such.

The Williams Royal Commission is ready-made for this investigation. It is a Federal commission presided over by a Supreme Court judge and set up before accusations of a political nature were made. There can be no suggestion of political involvement.

The commission already has made lengthy investigations into drug trafficking. The groundwork for the extended inquiry has been done. This should make it easier to get to the heart of the allegations.

The Opposition Leader (Mr. Casey) and other Labor Members now have a duty to make available to the inquiry all they claim to know. They said they wanted a judicial investigation and now they have one.

Mr. Justice Williams should not feel limited only to the charter he is accepting from the State Government. Should he find other drug matters involving Members of Parliament, police, airways operators or anyone else, he should report fully even if this means extending the inquiry further.

DEBATE OVER MARIHUANA LEGALIZATION CONTINUES

Cities Say 'No'

Canberra THE AUSTRALIAN in English 26 Nov 79 p 1

[Text] Nearly 50 per cent of people in the 18-24 age group favor legalising marijuana, according to a survey carried out for THE AUSTRALIAN in five major cities.

The poll, conducted on November 10 and 11 by Spectrum Research, showed:

OPPOSITION grew with increasing age. The poll surveyed 1210 people aged 18 to 86, of whom 42.9 per cent in the 18 to 24 group favored legalizing the drug and 53.4 per cent were opposed. In the over, 55 bracket, 87.5 per cent were opposed and only 4.9 per cent in favor.

MELBOURNE was least opposed to legalization, support for the move coming from 27.8 per cent of those polled in that city. Next, in order of support, were Brisbane (25.9 per cent in favor), Sydney (23.4 per cent), Adelaide (16.4) and Perth (16.1).

ONE-THIRD of those who said they intended to vote ALP, or 32.9 per cent, suppor-

ted legalisation. Future Liberal-Country Party voters were only 16.2 per cent in favor.

WOMEN were nearly 10 per cent more opposed than men. Seventy-six per cent of women interviewed said they were not in favor compared with 67.7 per cent of men.

BLUE collar workers were marginally more in favor of legalisation than white collar employees, 31.8 per cent to 25 per cent. However, among the unemployed the figure fell to only 14.4 per cent in favor.

EARNINGS had little bearing on shaping opinions, according to the survey. Of those earning \$15.000 a year before tax, 72.8 per cent said they were not in favor, just 4.8 per cent more than those opposed in the group earning under \$10,000.

Legal marijuana survey

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Young Liberals' Stand

Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 26 Nov 79 p 11

[Text]

MELBOURNE: The Victorian Young Liber-al Movement will make direct submissions to the Prime Minister Mr Fraser, to decriminalise marihuana.

The movement's in-coming president, Mr Mark Birrell, said in Melbourne yesterday that decriminalisation of the use of marihu-ana was the only realis-tic legal option.

He was speaking at the movement's annual general meeting attend-ed by 300 delegates. "This has been our policy for a number of years," he said. "We make a distinc-

tion between marihu-ana and drugs of addiction and strongly support all Govern-ment moves to fight the use of narcoties."

Mr Birrell said that the legal status of mari-huana must be resolv-ed soon.

"Because it particu-larly relates to young people, it is incumbent on the Young Liberals to act in this area," he said.

At the general meeting, where he was elected unopposed, her Birrell said that the National Country Party was a naturally acceptance of the said of the declining force.

"The party is losing a

lot of credibility and voter support because it can't break away from its traditional backing," he said.

"Even the farmers aren't the selfish group the NCP holds them to be—the Liberal Party is having a great influence on them."

CANDIDATES

At the July State council of the Liberal Party, Mr Birrell moved the Young Liberal resolution to stand a Liberal candidate in every State and Federal electorate.

He endorsed his resolution at the general

meeting.

He said during his one-year term of office that he would aim to explain the Liberal Party's economic poli-cies to young people.

"We will also try to improve Liberal policles by direct involvement at the State and federal councils," he said.

Mr Birrell (21) is the youngest president in the movement's history. He is an economics graduate and is studying law.

He is not related to the Liberal MLA Hay-den Birrell (Geelong West.)

Canberra Newspaper Comments

Canberra THE AUSTRALIAN in English 26 Nov 79 p 6

"Theories up in Smoke"] [Editorial:

[Text]

MANY people will be surprised at the strength of the vote against legalising the use of marijuana revealed today in the results of a survey commissioned by The Australian. Overall, 71.9 per cent - or almost three out of four of those surveyed - oppose legalisation of the drug. This is a very high proportion of opposition, indeed. And it is interesting to see that majority opposition exists in all age groups, political parties and occupations - including those not working.

The strength of the opposition is surprising because strong lobby groups — some of them apparently well financed - have created an im--pression in many minds that a high -proportion of people, particularly young people, both use the drug and support its legalisation. Unless we can accept the unlikely proposition that many of its users want it to remain illegal, the survey must destroy that impression. Even in the 18-24 age group, the vote against legalisation ran 53 to 43 per cent. And in the 25-34 age group, supposedly the sector of the now-mature trendies of the swinging '60s, when marijuana first came into the news in this country, the vote was 65 to 30 against. In the "not working" section, which includes the unemployed, both young and old, the vote against was 81 to 14.

The inescapable, inference is that the impression of general acceptance of marijuana skiffully created by the lobbyists is false. Governments which have refused to fall for the propaganda can be reassured that, in denying pressures to legalise (or decriminalise, as the euphemism has it) the drug, they have not and will not lose votes.

As we said in an editorial 18 days ago, after the release of the report of the NSW Royal Commission into drug trafficking: "Any government which legalises general use of marijuana will be acting irresponsibly . . . Medical experts, it is true, differ widely on the extent of harm which marijuana does. But recent evidence indicates it may be more harmful than its supporters have claimed in the past. In these circumstances, no responsible government can contemplate legalising its use." And, now, it doesn't need to.

AUSTRALIA

NARCOTICS BUREAU OFFICERS FACE CONSPIRACY CHARGES

Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 30 Nov 79 p 13

[Text]

Two Federal Narcotics Bureau officers appeared in Central Court of Petty Sessions yesterday charged with conspiracy to dis-close information about the im-portation and distribution of drugs.

The two men, Wayne John Brindle, 29, and Richard John Spencer, 32, entered no plea during their brief appearance before Mr C. Briese, CSM. Both were charged that between May 28 and June 2 in Sydney they conspired with each other and Terrence John Clarke to obstruct or defeat the course of justice by unlawfully disclosing information to Clarke on unlawful importation and distribution of narcotic drues.

mpotation and drugs.

Mr J. D. Trail, QC, acting for Brindle and Speacer, said both denied ever meeting Clarke or communicating with

meeting Clarke or communicating with him.

Both men were Customs officers who had had long careers in the Federal Narcotics Bureau.

At Mr Trail's request, Mr Briese ordered that the addresses of the two men be withheld from publication because of their bureau work.

The police prosecutor, Sergeant D. Garland, asked Mr Briese to make it a condition of bail that the men not approach any witnesses.

Mr Trail said his clients did not know who any of the witnesses were because

who any of the witnesses were because no allegations had ever been put to his clients.

When Sergeant Garland declined to

name the witnesses, Mr Briese refused to make the order. Mr Briese adjourned the case until December 14 for mention. Both men were allowed bail of \$1,000.

AUSTRALIA

TRIAL OF ALLEGED AUSTRALIAN DRUG SMUGGLERS ADJOURNS

Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 21 Nov 79 p 12

[Text]

BANGKOK, Tuesday. — The trial of three Australians and a Thai, including the Sydney Rugby League player Paul Hayward, on drug-amuggling charges was adjourned yesterday until January 28.

A Thai criminal court ordered the adjournment at the request of defence lawyers.

The other Australians are a Sydney hairdresser, Warren Fellows, and a Bangkok bar owner, William Sinclair.

At a hearing last Friday

liam Sinclair.

At a hearing last Friday, the defeace sought a long adjournment to translate and study prosecution evidence detailing Australian police investigations into a Bangkok-Sydney drug-trafficking ring to which the three Australians allegedly belonged.

AUSTRALIA

BRIEFS

DRUGS IN PRISONS--A drug blackmarket operates inside NSW jails, a court was told yesterday. Mrs. M. Sleeman, SM, was inquiring at the City Coroner's Court, Glebe, into the death of Long Bay prisoner, Peter Tahau, 26, in his cell on May 14 or 15. Constable Neville Greatorex said a search had found no note or instrument indicating Tahau had taken his own life. The dead man had taken the sleeping pill Mogadon for two weeks last February. Constable Greatorex said prison authorities had told him that the taking of medication was not always supervised, and that a prisoner could store prescribed medication. "It is also common knowledge that within the prisons system there exists a blackmarket system which deals in drugs," he said. His inquiries showed that this was the only means Tahau could have used to obtain a drug. Mrs Sleeman found that Tahau died from taking pentobarbitone but now with the intent of killing himself. [Text] [Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 17 Nov 79 p 4]

DRUGS THEFT REPORTED-Burnie.--A man armed with a saw-off .22 rifle held up seven staff members of the Spencer division of the North Western General Hospital, Wynyard, early yesterday morning. He bound the hands of two female and a male nurse and locked them in a security room. He then emptied the contents of two drug cabinets into bags and made off. [Text] [Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 1 Dec 79 p 27]

EVIDENCE IN NSW INQUIRY--Two men appeared in Central Court of Petty Sessions yesterday charged with conspiring to cause the giving of false evidence to the NSW Drugs Commission. In a brief hearing the two men were remanded to November 22 and allowed continuing bail of \$2,000. Before the court were Giuseppe Antonie Calabria, 50, a carrier, of Coolah Street, Griffith, and Rosario Alexander Trimbole, 25, an estage agent. They were charged with conspiring together and with Giovanni Sergi and Robert Ininbale at Griffith between October 4 and November 25, 1977, to cause the giving of false testimony to the NSW Royal Commission into Drug Trafficking. [Excerpt] [Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 10 Nov 79 p 5]

STUDENT ON HEROIN CHARGE—A student teacher was committed yesterday for trial on charges of having possessed and sold heroin on July 3. Teresa Ann Yates, 22, of Moncrief Road, Cannon Hill, entered no pleas to the charges and was committed to the Supreme Court criminal sittings, beginning on November 19. Plainclothes Constable Robert McGahey said drug squad police went to her house and found three silver foil wrappers containing a white powder. McGahey said Yates told her [as published] the powder was heroin and she was looking after it for a friend. She agreed the wrapper contents were in her possession. McGahey said police entered the house with a search warrant after a signal was given that heroin had been sold to a plainclothes policeman and a police agent. [Excerpts] [Brisbane THE COURIER-MAIL in English 26 Oct 79 p 18]

MARIHUANA, COCAINE DEALINGS--A young woman gaoled in June for a drug offence was sentenced to more gaol yesterday for selling cannabis. The District Court was told that about the same time that Catherine Rita Donat (22) supplied cocaine to a friend in Fremantle gaol she was involved in drug activities at Collie. Mrs Donat, formerly of Malta, who came to Australia in 1962 and to WA in December last year, was sentenced to three years' gaol with an 18-month minimum for the cocaine offence, which she committed on a visit to the prison. Yesterday she was sentenced by Judge O'Connor to two year's gaol with a sixmonth minimum, cumulative on the earlier sentence, for her part in selling between 1363 grams and 1818 grams of cannabis, which had been grown near Collie. [Excerpt] [Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 7 Nov 79 p 30]

WOMAN ON DRUG COUNT--Darwin: A 23-year-old Perth woman was remanded in custody yesterday after a brief appearance in the Darwin Magistrate's Court, charged with importing cannabis resin valued on the street at more than \$15,000. Margaret Mary Ryan, cleaner, did not plead. She was remanded till December 13. [Text] [Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 29 Nov 79 p 18]

SMUGGLERS' 'HASHISH VAN'--Sydney.--The campervan used by two American grand-mothers to smuggle \$12.5 million worth of hashish into Australia was auctioned to an overseas buyer yesterday for \$15,500. The van was sold by customs auctioneers Pitt Son and Badgery, to a man believed to be an American. The van is a left-hand drive Mercedes campervan with plenty of concealed storage space, under the floor, behind the walls, inside the seats, around the spare tyres: ideal for hiding a lucrative cargo. [Excerpts] [Melbourne THE ACE in English 22 Nov 79 p 3]

MELBOURNE ODYSSEY HOUSE--Odyssey House has been given the go-ahead by the Board of Works. The James McGrath Foundation was yesterday granted a conditional town planning permit to use the Blessed Sacrament Father's Monastery in Bonds Lane, Eltham, for an institution to treat drug addicts. The conditions on which the permit was granted are: that the board controls further buildings and works, that residents do not number more than 150, that staff do not park all day next to the bridge on the south side of the Yarra, that fencing blends with the landscape, and that vegetation is not removed with-

out board approval. The board considered 238 objections to the proposal for the live-in center on the 14.59 hectare site which is in a special conservation zone. [Excerpts] [Melbourne THE AGE in English 21 Nov 79 p 4]

MARIHUANA RESEARCH PROGRAM--Melbourne--Hundreds of people have responded to an appeal by Sydney University's pharmacology department to take part in a cannabis research program. The research, financed by an \$18,000 grant from the NSW Drug Authority, requires experienced cannabis takers to spend a day from 9 am to 4.30 pm undergoing tests. The university will pay the volunteers \$10 a day expenses, provide a chicken and salad lunch, supply the cannabis and guarantee immunity from the law. A research psychologist, Mr Richard Teo, said yesterday blood samples would be taken and co-ordination, body sway and other reactions studied. "We will keep the volunteers here until we feel they're capable to go home. Then we'll get a cab for them." [Text] [Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 28 Nov 79 p 3]

ANTI-DRUG UNIT PLANNED--The NSW Labor Council has agreed to form a unit to help combat the growing problem of drug addiction and alcoholism among workers. It will be financed by a grant of \$15,000 from the NSW Drug and Alcohol Authority and a further \$3,750 from the council. The secretary of the Labor Council, Mr Barrie Unsworth, said it had been agreed that the major expense should be borne by the Government--rather than affiliated unions.

[Excerpts] [Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 24 Nov 79 p 11]

HEROIN, COCAINE OFFENSES--A 23-year-old man convicted of two drug offences was sentenced in the Supreme Court yesterday to three years' gaol with a minimum of eight months. Kell Marten Ter-Haar, slaughterman, who gave an address in Yundurup, was convicted by a jury earlier this month of possession of heroin at Claremont on March 8 this year with intent to sell or supply it. He was also found guilty of possessing cocaine at the same place on the same day. Ter-Haar, who denied all the charges, was acquitted of a charge of possessing cocaine on that day with intent to sell it. Mr Justice Wallace gaoled him for three years on the heroin charge, for another year concurrently on the cocaine count and another month concurrently for breach of probation. [Excerpt] [Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 24 Nov 79 p 45]

BURMA

POPPY DESTRUCTION CAMPAIGN RESULTS REPORTED

Shan State Operations

BK031448 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 3 Jan 80 BK

[Text] In accordance with the instructions of the Central Narcotic Drugs Control Board, and with the arrangements made by the People's Police Force Headquarters, since 1975 poppy plantations in various regions of Burma are being destroyed by military operations.

Accordingly, since 18 December 1979, the 4th and 5th armed forces security control regiments, the Shan State People's Police Force and the local populace, working under the guidance of regional party committees, are jointly destroying poppy plantations in southern, northern and eastern Shan State.

As of 31 December 1979, the following poppy plantations have been destroyed:

In Pekon Township, Southern Shan State, ground surveillance detected 67 acres, but the actual number of acres destroyed was 90. In Pinlaung Township, ground surveillance detected 30 acres, but 56.75 acres were destroyed. In Hsi-hseng Township, of the 305 acres detected by air surveillance, 32.15 acres have been destroyed.

In Tangyan Township, Northern Shan State, of the 585 acres detected by ground surveillance, 10.75 acres have been destroyed. In Keng Tung Township, Eastern Shan State, of the 191 acres detected, 147 acres have been destroyed. In Tachilek Township, of the 108.05 acres detected, 25.05 acres have been destroyed. In Mong Hsat Township, air surveillance detected 1,215 acres and 305 acres have been destroyed.

It has been learned that the remaining poppy plantations will also be destroyed under operation "Blooms of Hell."

According to ground surveillance, 306.25 acres of poppy have been detected in Southern Shan State--Pekon, Pinlaung, Lawksawk, Hsi-hseng,

Mong Nai, Mong Pang and Kunhing townships; in Namtu, Namkham, Lashio, Tangyan, Kutkai, Hsenwi, Kunlong and Muse townships of Northern Shan State, 1,841.30 acres have been detected; and in Keng Tung, Tachilek, Mong Ping, Mong Hsat, Mong Tong, Mong Hkak, Mong Hpayak and Mong Yawng townships of Eastern Shan State, 1,286.50 acres have been detected.

In some townships, as a result of education and organization by the party, councils, armed forces and People's Police Force, crops are being substituted in plots where poppy was once grown. The regional people's militia are also trying to give protection from the threat of insurgents.

Campaign Update

BK100240 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 9 Jan 80 BK

[Text] In accordance with the resolution adopted at the fourth meeting of the First People's Assembly, which calls for a national effort to combat narcotic drugs which cause national atrophy, the poppy destruction campaign, as in previous years, is being carried out this year under operation "Bloom of Hell" in accordance with the arrangements made by the Central Narcotic Drugs Control Board.

It has been learned that the poppy destruction campaign being carried out by the armed forces, people's security forces, local police force and the local populace under the guidance of the party and councils has so far resulted in the razing of some 1,200 acres of poppy plantations. The campaign began on 18 December 1979.

cso: 5300

BURMA

DESTRUCTION OF OPIUM SOURCES

Rangoon WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 7 Jan 80 p 5 BK

[Editorial: "Destruction of Opium Sources"]

[Text] Burma has been making sustained efforts not only to stop narcotic drug manufacturing and trafficking but also to destroy the drug menace at its source.

A recent report indicates increasing successes in the destruction of primary drug sources--illicit poppy plantations--wherever and whenever they may be found.

As part of Operation Nga-ye-pan, launched for the destruction of illicit poppy fields in the country for this season, Tatmadawmen, police personnel and the working people, under the leadership of the Party Regional Committee and People's Council, have been seeking out and destroying illicit poppy plantations in the Shan State since 18 December.

Even though these illicit poppy fields may be situated in places of difficult access, the Tatmadaw, the police and the working people have managed to uncover and destroy them. It is interesting to note that more than 600 acres of illicit poppy were destroyed in seven townships of the Shan State just within two weeks from 18 to 31 December 1979.

While destroying the poppy fields, the authorities have also been persuading and educating the local people of the regions to refrain from the cultivation of poppy and other plants of such nature. At the same time, former poppy cultivators are supplied with necessary inputs to take up other substitute cash crops. They are supplied with fertilizers, seeds and seedlings for taungya paddy, coffee, groundnut and fruit trees. Furthermore, training courses are also conducted for them to take up these substitute crops.

While search and destroy operations for illicit poppy fields are being carried out without let up in the poppy growing regions, the fight against

drug menace is also being continued in the urban areas. Drug pushers are being tracked down and addicts nabbed and given heavy punishment in courts.

But intensive as these activities may be, the very nature of drug abuse and the networks which serve the abusers are too devious to be easily stamped out. Hence the need for greater efforts to detect, expose and bring to book all transporters, distributors, users and any others who in any way may be linked or are engaged in the drug trade.

The drug menace must be stopped in time for it threatens not only one people or one country but the whole of mankind. The on-going measures to stamp out opium at its source and the taking of firm action against all forms of trafficking and against drug abuse is welcomed. With the increasing number of working people involved in such activities we may look forward to achieving greater successes in our fight against the drug menace.

BURMA

BRIEFS

JAILED UNDER DRUGS LAW--Pabedan Township Court chaired by U Tha Oo yesterday sentenced a man, caught with five methaquolone tablets in his possession, to five years' imprisonment under Section 6(b) (possession) and a one-year term under Section 14(d) (failure to register for treatment) of the Narcotic Drugs Law. The sentences are to be served concurrently. The case was that on 20 June 1979, Pabedan police led by Sub-Inspector U Win Swe acting on a tip searched a man at the corner of Anawrahta and 32nd Streets and seized five methaquolone tablets from him. Police arrested the man identified as Abu Bakr alias Tin Hla (32) of No 487, Yenaung Road, Ka Ward, Hninzigon, Thingangyun, booked him under the Narcotic Drugs Law and sent him up for trial before the Pabedan Township Court. [Text] [Rangoon THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 25 Dec 79 p 8]

RANGOON POLICE SEIZE HEROIN--Rangoon, 1 Jan--Acting on information that heroin is being sold at the house of Kenneth on the 30th Street in Rangoon, policemen of Pabedan people's police force led by U Han Tin and ward councillors raided the residence at 1300 yesterday and seized 15 packages of heroin worth 25 kyat each, a syringe and five needles and 450 kyat in cash which is the proceeds from sale of heroin. They also arrested Kenneth, Win Aung of Thuwanna and Sonny alias Aung Aung of Konzedan at the house. Pabedan police have taken action against them under Sections 6(B), 10(B), 11 and 14 (DO of the Narcotic Drugs Law.) [Text] [Rangoon MYANMA ALIN in Burmese 2 Jan 80 p 7 BK]

cso: 5300

NEW ZEALAND

DRUGS COMMITTEE DECIDES NO CHANGE IN MARIHUANA USE ATTITUDE

Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 15 Dec 79 p 1

[Text]

THERE will be no change in the Government's attitude to marijuana use, the Government caucus committee on drugs has decided.

committee on drugs has decided.
"Medical effects, indicating its harmful effects, are mounting," said the committee's chairman, the MP for Horowhenua (Mr Geoff Thompson) in a statement last night

night.

"The effect of the drug on road and industrial safety is almost impossible to measure, and police effectiveness against drug dealers would be reduced if any liberalisation of use was permitted," he said.

And he announced that legislation would be introduced next year to provide for:—

 Forfeiture of vehicles used in drug dealing offences.
 Removal of the present four-

 Removal of the present fouryear time limit on prosecutions.
 Mr Thompson said the caucus

Mr Thompson said the caucus committee was carefully monitoring the Courts' use of higher maximum fines and a right to confiscate assets accumulated through drug dealing, granted in

amendments to the Misuse of Drugs Act last year.

In a further move, the Government expects to establish early in the new year a group of experts is the field to monitor developments in research, treatment and education of drug addicts.

The committee at this stage endorses the value of the ranging

The committee at this stage endorses the value of the apeutic communities, including one near Opotiki which operated as an alternative to prison.

"But because of the limited number that can be dealt with in such places, the Government recognises that a great deal more attention needs to be paid to treatment facilities, research on recovery data and expectations about treatment," Mr Thompson said.

"The Government's committee will maintain close attention to the field of drug abuse and intends to introduce improvements in enforcement, treatment and education whenever the need and processes are established."

NEW ZEALAND

COOPERATION WITH AUSTRALIA WELCOMED IN DRUGS FIGHT

Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 14 Dec 79 p 2

[Editorial: "Valuable Rapport in Drugs Crack-Down"]

[Text]

LATE IN October, 1976, former Police Commissioner Burnside used a speech Commissioner Burnside used a speech to Dunedin Rotarians to jolt New Zealanders' apathy towards drug trafficking. He spoke of the Mr Bigs of crime with their expensive homes, flashy motorcars, fashionable clothing, innumerable women and frequent air

It all sounded more applicable to, say, the United States, rather than little, old easy-going New Zealand. But events since, culminating in the case of Christopher Martin Johnstone, have brought this country very much into the international illicit drug scene.

In the circumstances, it is reassuring to note the meeting in Wellington this week of Mr Burnside's successor, Commissioner Walton, and his Australian counterpart, Sir Colin Woods. Only good can come from such contact.

contact.

Both men are completely in touch with the transtasman drug trade, as well as farther afield, and their decision to join forces in a crime intelligence move aimed at coordinating the efforts of both countries in cracking down on the traffickers and their evil dealings is most welcome.

It makes sense for New Zealand and Australia to work in partnership, as it is the illicit transtasman flow of drugs in particular that is of mutual

in particular that is of mutual concern.

Four months ago, for example, it was reported from Melbourne that an Australian-New Zealand syndicate had smuggled into Australia pure heroin worth at least \$45,000,000 in a single shipment. The grisly Johnstone case has since revealed the international extent of the narcotics business in this part of the world, specially the Asian connection.

New Zealand has dramatically stepped up its drug surveillance and it has been estimated that the amount of heroin seized and heroin-related neroin seized and heroin-related charges this year could be double last year's figures. In the first six months of this year 302 charges were laid, compared with 303 for the whole of last year. Similarly, 1752 grams of heroin were seized by Police and Customs in the first half, as against 1945 in the whole of 1978.

This is just the position as it relates

This is just the position as it relates to heroin — and only in known instances. But the illegal drug trade is far more encompassing as society is finding out to its horror.

finding out to its horror.

It is all the more insidious because the victims of the traffickers are frequently young and, once hooked, their lives are easily ruined.

Countries can legislate against the perpetuation of this filthy and vicious trade, but the illicit drug operation is global and highly organised. Laws alone are not sufficient unless the

dealers and their touts are apprehended.

Society looks to the Police, in particular, to do the work of crime prevention. But in a jet-age world it demands co-operation between countries and the rapport established this week between Mr Walton and Sir Colin will be invaluable in the fight to check what can only be termed the modern acourge.

PAKISTAN

BRIEFS

CHARAS RECOVERED--The Lower Mall Police raided on Sunday the house of Ghulam Rasul of Data Darbar area and recovered from his possession 35 grams of contraband charas. He had already been challenged in different 105 cases. Police have arrested the accused and registered a case against him under Shariat Law and Narcotic Act. [Text] [Lahore THE PAK13TAN TIMES in English 24 Dec 79 p 5]

CHARAS SEIZED AT YAKKI GATE--Twenty kilogram of charas was seized by Yakki Gate Police on Wednesday. Two persons have been arrested in this connection. A police party on information conducted a raid at "Aik Moria Pull" on Tuesday night and apprehended a suspect, Abdul Karim, possessing 450 gram of charas. The accused on interrogation informed that he had finalised a deal for the purchase of 20 kilogram of charas from Munawar Ahmad, who would deliver the narcotic to him at the appointed time during the night. The police kept on waiting till Munawar appeared with a small truck. He was hauled up and the police recovered 20 kg of charas from him. A case has been registered against Abdul Karim and Munawar Ahmad under the Shariat Law and the Dangerous Drugs Control Act. [Text] [Lahore THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English 27 Dec 79 p 3]

OPIUM RECOVERED--Multan, Dec. 28: Nine kilos of opium worth over Rs 85,000 is reported to have been recovered from Maqsood Ahmad, a former contractor, by Muzaffargarh Sadar Police. On receipt of information, the SHO blocked Jhang Road caught Maqsood Ahmad alongwith his agent Gulzar Ahmad on the charge of smuggling opium in a motor-car. The accused's bid to run away in their car was foiled by the police. Opium being allegedly smuggled by the accused was recovered from them and they were arrested under the provisions of Islamic Ordinance. It may be added that the police had earlier allegedly recovered 70 bags of 'bhang' from accused Maqsood Ahmad who was on bail in this case. [Text] [Lahore THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English 29 Dec 79 p 5]

NARCOTICS CONTROL BOARD RELEASES ADDICT FIGURES

Bangkok NATION REVIEW in English 17 Dec 79 p 1 BK

[Text]

ONE out of every 500 people in Thailand is a drug addict, Secretary General of the Narcotics Control Board Pol Maj Gen Pow Sersain said yesterday.

This figure has emerged despite the rising price of narcotics as a result of drought that has been wreaking havoc in the North coupled with stepped-up suppression by the government authorities.

Referring to a statement made by a doctor of Phra Mongkut Hospital that the number of drug addicts seeking treatment at the hospital had droppest secently. Pow said that the development did not necessarily mean that less people were becoming drug addicts.

Pow said that at a recent international meeting participents had expressed sympathy with Thailand in glying full cooperation in drug suppression, and several countries had offered to give assistance to Thailand in this area.

For instance, West Germany gave about 100 million baht in aid of the same project in addition to giving equipments used in suppression drives.

cso: 5300

ARREST OF HEROIN SMUGGLERS FROM HONG KONG REPORTED

Couple Arrested on Tour Bus

Bangkok SIAM RATH in Thai 20 Nov 79 p 12

[Article: "Two Young People From Hong Kong Are Arrested With Heroin"]

[Text] Hong Kong Drug Dealers, Hiding Heroin Next to Their Chests and Genitals In Order to Travel to Europe and Sell the Drugs There, Are Arrested

The Metropolitan Drug Control Unit and the Drug Control Unit of the Office of the President of the Council of Ministers, in cooperation with the Drug Control Unit of the United States, have learned that heroin will be smuggled out of Thailand and sold in Europe. Major dealers sent a man and a woman from Hong Kong to Thailand to buy heroin here and take it to dealers in London.

Both heroin carriers arrived in Bangkok on 4 November aboard Singapore Airlines Flight No 641. The man's name is Mr Wong Chan Kiang, age 22. He works as a bartender at the Intercontinental Hotel in Hong Kong. He stayed at the Racha Hotel on Sukumwit Road. The girl's name is Lu So Yang, age 26. She stayed at a different hotel. The drug control authorities trailed them and closely watched the behavior of both these people.

On the 18th of this month, both of these people moved to the Morakot Hotel on New Petburi Road and made contact with another man, who, it has been learned, is a major dealer. However, no arrests were made then because of the lack of conclusive evidence. Following this, this man left Thailand for Paris. The authorities speculated that he had come to make plans with his accomplices concerning smuggling heroin out of the country.

At approximately 2000 hours on the 19th, the drug control authorities went to inspect a tour bus that was to go to Hatyai. The tour bus belonged to the Taksin Tour Company, which has an office at the Empire Hotel on Yaowarat street. The authorities also searched Miss Lu So Yang, who was acting suspiciously, and found special No 3 heroin, or what is called Sugar Brown, in her brassiere and tied to her stomach. When female officers made a further search, they found more heroin that Miss Lu So Yang had tied next to her vagina, like a woman using a feminine pad. The search netted 1,673 grams of heroin, or approximately 1.5 kilograms, worth about 180,000 baht. If it had been sold in Europe, it would have had a value of tens of millions of baht.

The authorities took the two to conduct an investigation at the Control Department, Section 2, Division 7. The suspects confessed that they were taking the heroin to Kuala Lampur before continuing on to England, Brazil and London in order to deliver it to the major dealer, who was to fly from Paris and wait at these places. However, before they could do this, they were arrested by the authorities.

Photo of Arrested Couple

Bangkok DAO SIAM in Thai 21 Nov 79 p 1

[Text]



Mrs Lao Hao Yong and Mr Wong Son Tung, a husband and wife couple from Hong Kong, concealed 1.7 kilograms of heroin underneath their underwear. They were arrested while on a tour bus at Circle 22 in Bangkok on the evening of the 19th.

THA1 LAND

TEACHER, POLICEMAN ARRESTED WITH HEROIN IN LAMPANG

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 22 Dec 79 p 3 BK

[Text]

LAMPANG — Police have arrested eight men, including a Border Patrol Police private and a Chiang Rai teacher on charges of possessing 1.9 kilogrammes of high grade heroin with intent to

sell.
Police said they were tipped off that a heroin trafficking gang would deliver heroin at the Siam Hotel on Chatchai Road in Muang District.

Yesterday afternoon a joint plainclothes police

team from Lampang Provincial Police, Northern Narcotics Sup-pression. Unit and Seventh Sub-division of

the Crime Suppression of the Crime Suppression Division went to the hotel positioned themselves around the hotel.

At 3.30 p.m., police said, two vehicles, a Toyota Corona and a Mazda pick-up truck with four men in each turned. four men in each, turned into the hotel parking lot and the eight men climbed out.

When police approached the men tried

to run away but were all arrested after a brief

Police allegedly found five bags of No. 4 heroin weighing 1.9 kilos, hid-den in a cushion in the Toyota Corona. A .45 km.n revolver was also found, police said.

The eight men were identified as Chainarong sae Tia, Thawii Sanboonpeng, a teacher at Ban San Pa Pao, Viang Pa Pao District, Poi Pyt Chamnong Kanthares of Border Patrol Police Zone 5, Paiboon Ritthisarn, Prayad Sontang, Serm Pramoonchua, Saard Chaiwangraj and Pao Chongkiri.

They were taken to the Crime Suppression Division Police headquarters in Bangkok for further questioning yesterday evening.

THATLAND

ITALIANS HELD WITH HEROIN IN CHIANG MAI

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 20 Dec 79 p 3 BK

[Text]

TWO ITALIAN tourists who allegedly were about to board a Thai Airways jet to Bangkok, with 750 grammes of No. 4 first grade heroin in their possession, were arrested yesterday at Chiang Mai Airport.

Chiang Mai Airport.

Police said the two suspects, Luigi Cicalla and Marcello Tazzellini, both in their twenties, confessed to possession of the drugs and admitted being heroin addicts.

Acting on a tip-off, chiang Mai police superintendent, Col Supan Pongthong, and Pol Lt Prasit Prathorarak, chief of a special task unit, were special task unit, were waiting at the airport

waiting at the airport
when the two tourists arrived at 3.30 p.m.

Body and belongings
searches were carried out
and solice said they
would a tube of heroin
and a syringe hidden in
Cicalla's underpants, and

five packages of heroin in Tazzellini's underpants. Two larger packages of heroin were found in a specially-made album in .Tazzellini's suitcase,

police said.
Police claimed the men
told them they had paid
US\$5000 for the drugs, which they maintained was for their own use.

Meanwhile, foreigners were sentenced yesterday in two separate heroin pos-session cases in Bangkok Criminal Court.

Tunisian national Samelle Sarbaji, 21, found guilty of possessing 609 grammes of heroin with intent to sell, was sentenced to nine years and four months' jaii. During the case the prosecution dropped an additional charge of attempting to smuggle the

drug out of the country.
British national
Duncan Bolton, 31, who pleaded guilty to posses-sion of 8.57 grammes of heroin for his own use, was fined 10,000 baht and placed on two years' probation.

cso: 5300

BURMESE, THAIS SEIZED WITH MARIHUANA IN KANCHANABURI

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 10 Dec 79 o 3 BK

[Text]

Saturday morning, police said yesterday.

The raid came in the wake of reports received by police that marituana was being cultivated in the Dong Phong meantain area in San Tan Tang Na of Tamben Sai Vok to supply foreign towrists coming to Kaschanaburi.

A police helicopter was dispatched to locate the plantation. At the same time, a force of 30 policemen led by Col Ratchasak Chantharat, Deputy Cemmander of the Provincial Police Zone 3, set out for Dong Phong mountain.

Burmege immigrants the 20-rai marijuana plantwere arrested and about tation at about 6.38 a.m. Saturday morning. They seized after police found a large marijuana planta to in the dense junges 200 sacks of marijuana of Sai Yok District, that were ready for ship-Kanchanaburi Province, Saturday morning, police said yesterday.

The rolled discovered the 20-rai marijuana planta at the scene and seized to said yesterday. seized.

Police said they were told by Lamoon, the head of the workers that he was paid 3,000 baht by a businessman whom he knew only as "Mong", from Bangkok to cultivate the martiuana plants.

Police said 20 rai of marijuana can produce up to 20 tons of the drug.

All suspects were taken to the Provincial Police Zone 3 Command in Muang District for further questioning.

HEROIN, WEAPON SEIZED WITH MAJOR TRAFFICKER

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 16 Dec 79 p 3 BK

[Text]

POLICE yesterday said they had arrested a major heroin trafficker and two of her customers, and selzed 700 grammes of No 4 neroin and a loaded weapon.

The arrests came after police failed to catch the three at the scene of an aileged drug deal. Mrs Nitiya Anekpinijkul (42), an alleged drug trafficker who has been sought by narcotics agents here and abroad for years, was ar-rested at her home on New Road. Nakhon Rukachart (33) and his wife Orawan (28) were arrested in their car on Satupradit Road. Anti-narcotics agents

from the Office of Nar-cotics Control Board and the Metropolitan Police Narcotics Unit made the arrests after a year of attempts to successfully arrest Nitiya, known in drug circles as Keng Makeng, police said. The drug, in two bags,

and a loaded weapon were found in the couple's sedan half an hour after an alleged transaction in front of a Thai Commercial Bank on New Petchaburi Road.

Police said they had received information

that Nitiya would be bringing heroin from Chiang Rai to Bangkok and arranged for her to be followed. They saw her hand the bags to Nakhon and Orawan, but that she then left the scene so quickly that they were quickly that they were unable to catch the three red-handed, as they had to watch from a distance.

WANTED

Police said Nitiya was one of the persons most wanted by antiwanted by anti-narcotic agents both at home and abroad, as she had been in the trade for almost ten years and

several times.

Police expressed the hope that the arrest of Nitiya might help them break up one of Thailand's major drug distribution rings.

The trio have been charged with possession of heroin with intent to sell, if convicted, they could be sentenced to death under the new antinarcotics law.

BRIEFS

AMPHETAMINE PRODUCER ARREST--On 13 December the Samut Sakhon Provincial Police arrested Phongsak Lisoetphan, 30, at House No 202 Tambon Nong Song Hong, Ban Phaeo District while he was pressing amphetamine into capsules. A search of the house uncovered 25.8 kgs of amphetamine in powder form, 10 kgs of amphetamine capsules and other tools used in producing amphetamine capsules. [Excerpt] [BK141605 Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 14 Dec 79 pp 1, 12 BK]

CANADA

PROBLEMS NOTED IN GROWING COST OF CONTROLLING MARIHUANA USE

Vancouver THE VANCOUVER SUN in English 13 Dec 79 p B1

[Article by Larry Still]

[Text]

The Canadian defence department's military role in two major marijuana seizures on the west coast of Vancouver Island cost taxpayers more than half a million dollars.

Those two ventures, one in July, 1978, and the other last May, were aimed at assisting police in discouraging traffickers from using the island's remote western coastline as a handy port of entry.

At the same time, citizens caught with a little pot for personal use continued to dominate criminal statistics in the drug field. This despite the fact that many responsible organizations endorse the view that simple possession of marijuana should not be a criminal of-

Possession prosecutions added millions of dollars to the cost of controlling the growing use of marijuana. At the same time the argument in favor of "decriminalizing" simple possession of the drug was reinforced.

Although some segments of the community consider marijuana to be a harmless, socially acceptable narcotic, the number of convictions related to the drug increased from 1,429 in 1968 to 31,718 last year.

Police say the explosive increase in convictions is directly related to the growth of marijuana usage, a phenomenon that tends to encourage high-profile use. They deny the statistics reflect increased enforcement of the law against simple possession.

An analysis of the latest statistics released by the federal health department's Bureau of Dangerous Drugs indicates that 95 per cent of all convictions under the Narcotic Control Act in 1978 involved marituana.

Of the marijuana convictions, 87 per cent were for simple possession.

With the average cost of each prosecution for simple possession estimated at \$1,000, taxpayers in 1978 paid \$27.6 million to prosecute the 27,609 Canadians convicted of having a little pot in their possession.

The court expenditure on cases related to marijuana does not include the high cost of police investigations, or the millions spent each year on legitimate "secondary industries," such as probationary and social worker services and the prison system.

One source estimates that it costs at least \$100 million a year, through investigations, prosecutions and ancilliary services, to keep simple possession of marijuana as a criminal offence in Canada.

Contrary to the popular notion that judges readily hand out absolute or conditional discharges to persons guilty of simple possession, statistics for 1978 indicate that only 26 per cent were so favored.

Supporters of a more liberal approach to possession point out that thousands of generally law-abiding citizens, because their preference is for pot instead of alcohol, continue to be labelled criminals.

They stress that the consequences of such criminal records can be as serious as are those of international traffickers who navigate multi-million-dollar cargoes of marijuana up from Colombia to some rugged Vancouver Island inlet.

Officials responsible for enforcing the present law, including police officers and federal prosecutors, do try to distinguish between the highly organized trafficker and the casual user.

Police say the majority of simple possession charges are laid because an officer cannot ignore what often is a blatant flouting of the law. At other times, they encounter marijuana when investigating some other offence.

Big-time traffickers, whose business is highly profitable because of its illicit nature, continue to risk heavy prison sentences by importing marijuana from South America.

They apparently ieel that the risk of a minimum seven-year sentence is offset by the huge profits to be made. Colombian Gold, for instance, a high-grade marijuana, sells to dealers for \$600 to \$800 a pound. It is sold on the street for \$70 an ounce.

Police say increasing numbers of smugglers, deterred by the success of U.S. drug enforcement agencies, are attempting to use Canada as an entry point for the North American market.

The defence department's first West Coast role in battling traffickers was known as Operation Iguana, a 1978 exercise in which two destroyers and 500 members of the armed forces, along with the RCMP, captured 15 men and seized 18 tons of marijuana worth \$28 million

A spokesman for the Canadian Armed Forces said that Operation Iguana. conducted in Shelter Inlet, north of Tofino. cost the defence department \$222,470. Of this, \$77,041 was recoverable from the federal solicitor-general's department.

department.
The 1978 West Coast bust was a spaceage operation in which RCMP and agents of the U.S. Drug Enforcement

age operation in white Robust agents of the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency combined with members of the Canadian Armed Forces to use an earth satellite to capture the smugglers.

The operation began when a U.S. agent got aboard the smuggling vessel Toernyn and planted two electronic tracking devices, enabling agents to track the boat on its course from Colombia

Special Agent Ernest Staples installed a SatTrack, a device which sent a signal from the boat to a NASA satellite in orbit around the earth. The satellite relayed the boat's position to agents at a receiving station near Washington, D.C.

The satellite tracked the smuggling vessel from a Colombian port, via Mexico and San Diego, to the west coast of Vancouver Island. There, the Toernyn met up with the fishing vessels Weatherly and Sunfish.

The smugglers, whose vessel was shadowed by Canadian Forces planes when it entered Canadian waters, were captured at the rendezvous by the combined force of RCMP and armed forces personnel.

Two destroyers — the HMCS Kootenay and the HMCS Terra Nova — stood by as the arrests were made and 440 burlap-wrapped bales of high-grade Colombian marijuana were seized.

As a result of that bust, 15 persons were charged with conspiracy to import marijuana, with importing the drug and with possession for the purpose of trafficking in the drug.

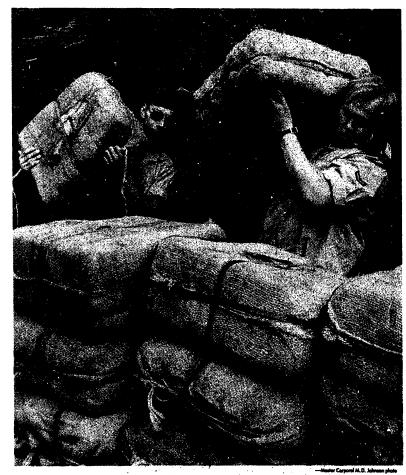
Nine months later, six of the accused were convicted and sentenced to prison terms ranging up to 10 years. The nine remaining accused are still in custody awaiting their trial.

The military's second marijuana venture, known as Operation Bulwark, took place in Sydney Inlet, northwest of Totina May. It resulted in the arrest of 23 subjects and the seizure of 35 tons of marijuana worth \$50 milion.

A preliiminary hearing into charges laid against 23 persons allegedly involved in the second operation is now in progress in Victoria. The judge has ordered a ban on publication of evidence submitted at the hearing.

A spokesman for the defence department said involvement of Armed Forces personnel and equipment in Operation Bulwark cost the department \$283,121, of which \$62,654 was recoverable from the solicitor-general's department.

The Sun's analysis of 1978 statistics relating to drug users and convictions shows that 31/718 (95.4 per cent) of the total 33,256 convictions under the Narcotic Control Act involved marijuana.



SMOKE STACKS . . . armed forces personnel unload part of 1978 marijuana haul

Of the total (31,718) marijuana convictions, 27,609 (87 per cent) were for simple possession, 2,216 (7 per cent) for possession for the purpose of trafficking and 1,714 (5.4 per cent) for trafficking. Other offences included importing and cultivating marijuana.

A limited breakdown between provinces indicates that Ontario led in marijuana convictions with 12,187 (38.4 per cent of the total), Alberta was second with 5,3°2 (16.7 per cent) and B.C. third with 4,295 (13.5 per cent).

In B.C. 3,805 (88.5 per cent) of all marijuana convictions (4,295) were for simple possession. The corresponding percentage in Alberta was 93 per cent and in Ontario it was 90 per cent.

As for the sentencing of all offenders found guilty of simple possession, national statistics indicate that 17,305 (63

per cent) were fined, 1,735 (6.2 per cent) received a suspended sentence with probation and 7,368 (26 per cent) were granted an absolute or conditional discharge.

Among the 1,184 (4.2 per cent) who were sent to prison, fully 78 per cent received a sentence of less than one month.

Of the 1,714 persons convicted of traffleking in marijuana, 1,341 (77 per cent) were sent to prison for terms ranging from less than one month to five years.

Similarly, of the 2,215 persons convicted of possession for the purpose of trafficking, 1,486 (67.5 per cent) were jailed for periods ranging from less than one month to two years.

What Has Become a National Pastime Is a Vast Problem for Lawmakers

The spiky green weed known to botanists as Cannabis sativa is a hardy little plant that fleurishes as easily in Kitsilano windowboxes as it does in Colombian fields.

In its more commonly known role as the narcotic marijuana, it provides a large segment of Canada's population with an occasional high—yet gives Canadian law-makers a headache.

The anomalies raised by its continuing presence in Canada's criminal law books include the fact that:

- About 2.5 million Canadians use marijuana, yet the defence department deploys warships to block its importation.
- Cancer patients smoke an occasional joint because it eases the nauseous side-effects of chemotherapy, yet those who possess the weed could be jailed for up to seven years.
- Respected medical and legal organizations favor so-called decriminalization of simple possession, yet the act of possessing the drug continues to turn thousands of Canadians into criminals.
- Hosts at highly-respectable dinner parties readily offer their guests a joint, yet schoolteachers convicted of possessing the drug are liable to be fired.

The dilemma facing Canadian lawmakers, whose statutory revisions should reflect changing social mores, is how the law can crack down on the bigtime marijuana trafficker and at the same time turn a blind eye to his customer.

The answer, according to proponents of decriminalization, is to remove marijuana

from the Narcotic Control Act and place it in Schedule G of the Food and Drug Act.

Authorities opposed to the decriminalization concept include high ranking police officers as well federal prosecutors, who retain sole jurisdiction over drug prosecutions.

They argue forcefully that alcohol, the drug sanctioned by the law, already causes enough social problems and society should not put its stamp of approval on yet another potentially disruptive drug.

Substances included in Schedule G of the

Substances included in Schedule G of the Food and Drug Act are categorized as "controlled," as opposed to "restricted" drugs. Simple possession of a controlled drug is not an offence.

Trafficking in a controlled drug, or possessing it for the purpose of trafficking, is an offence. Both offences, on summary conviction, warrant maximum sentences of 18 months. The maximum on indictment is 10 years.

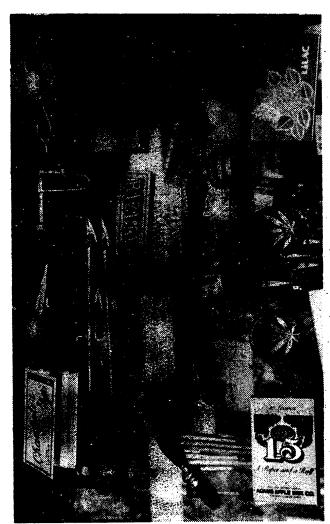
Thus, under Schedule G, the law wouldn't interfere with persons who grow or smoke their own marijuana. But those who stockpiled enough for trafficking, or did traffic, could still be sent to the slammer.

The effect of decriminalizing possession would mean that growing one's own marijuana, for instance, would be rather like making wine at home. Growing a cash crop, however, would constitute a crime.

In the present circumstances, with mari-

In the present circumstances, with marijuana included in the Narcotic Control Act, the maximum sentence for simple possession is one year on summary conviction and seven years on indictment.

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PIPES, CLIPS, PAPERS . . . for 2.5 million Canadians it's all part of the ritual of toking up

Persons found guilty of growing their own marijuans are liable to a maximum of seven years, traffickers can receive life while the sentence for importing the drug is a minimum of seven years and a maximum of life.

The most vocal backers of decriminalization are the well-organized members of NORML—the National Organization for Reform of Marijuana Laws—which has established its Canadian headquarters in Ottawa.

Those who also support decriminalization of simple possession include the federal Conservative, Liberal and New Democratic parties, as well as the Canadian Bar Association and the Canadian Medical Association.

Both the previous Liberal government and the present Tory government indicated a willingness to legislate decriminalization, although the proposed move was not considered a priority.

At their meeting last month in Ottawa, a majority of provincial attorneys-general urged the federal government to go slow on Health Minister David Crombie's proposal to remove criminal penalties for possession.

Vancouver lawyer Ted Seifred, B.C. regional director of NORMI, says his organization does not wish to encourage the use of marijuana but argues that turning persons into criminals isn't the best way of discouraging its use.

He warns that the present situation, in which simple possession remains on the books although thousands of Canadians smoke a joint in the way others might sip a martini, leaves the matter in the hands of the individual policeman.

"If police are allowed to selectively enforce the law, that situation can lead to injustice," he said. "With so many people smoking dope, police can arrest people they don't like."

Seifred also pointed out that there is a public misconception regarding the court's use of an absolute or a conditional discharge, a decision which can be made in the judge's discretion.

A judge is permitted to grant the offender a discharge for certain criminal oftences (providing no minimum sentence is prescribed or when the offence warrants a sentence of 14 years to life) if he considers it to be in the best interests of the accused and not contrary to public interest.

Contrary to popular notion, Seifred said, a person who receives an absolute or conditional discharge for a criminal offence, including possession of marijuana, still gets a criminal record. There is no record of a conviction, however.

CSO: 5320

In contrast to Seifred's liberal views, RCMP Supt. Lyman Henschel, who directs drug investigations in B.C., contends that decriminalization of simple possession "would lessen society's disapproval of drugs" and give the false impression that marijuana is a harmless drug.

Asked if it is RCMP policy to go easy on matters of simple possession, Henschel tactfully replied: "Our members do receive declared priorities. Our priority is to concentrate on major traffickers as opposed to simple possession."

Although the RCMP is concentrating its main enforcement effort on trying to combat smuggling through Vancouver Island or isolated border crossings, the force still uses belicopter patrols to catch those who grow their own on Gulf Islands.

Henschel said most arrests for simple possession occur when a policeman encounters the drug while investigating another matter. The superintendent also pointed out that no one now receives a heavy penalty for possession.

Reminded that more than 27,000 Canadians were convicted last year for simple possession, Henschel said the figure simply reflects the large numbers of users.

That is the very point emphasized by proponents of decriminalization.

Another opponent of the move to take the criminality out of simple possession is law-yer Digby Kier, who heads the federal justice department's criminal law section in B.C.

B.C.

"There are enough drugs about already, including alcohol," Kler said. "To decriminalize possession of marijuana would be to compound the serious drug problem which already exists."

The lawyer recailed that the last time Ottawa proposed introducing legislation to decriminalize possession of marijuana, his office received a flood of unsolicited phone calls from citizens opposed to the idea.

He raid possession of marificana is still a serious charge as far as existing law is concerned and he knows of no-policy to ease up on prosecuting those who violate the possession law.

Although there have been more conditional and absolute discharges in recent times. Kier added, he noted that many judges still insist on imposing a fine instead of granting a discharge.

He disagreed with a suggestion that it is futile and unnecessarily costly to prosecute cases which end in an absolute discharge.

"The experience of having to go to court can be a deterrent to some first offenders," he explained, "It brings the court system into focus within the community."

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CANADA

BRIEFS

HEROIN ARRESTS—A joint force of RCMP and city police drug officers today is searching for 11 of 22 people charged Tuesday with heroin trafficking following a 10-month undercover operation. The other 11 either turned themselves in to police or were picked up overnight. They are charged with a total of 37 offences relating to the trafficking of heroin in Vancouver between February and December 1979. Police said the charges resulted from the undercover work of an RCMP officer who paid \$30 to \$35 per capsule and up to \$3,200 for an ounce. [Text] [Vancouver THE VANCOUVER SUN in English 12 Dec 79 p H7]

YUGOSLAVIA

CONFERENCE DISCUSSES SPREAD OF DRUG ADDICTION

AU310910 Belgrade POLITIKA in Serbo-Croatian 25 Dec 79 p 11 AU

[Article by Radoje Arsenic]

[Summary] "Zagreb, December--How does our country resist the evident rise in use of narcotic drugs in the world? We have heard the latest answer at a recent conference in Karlovac, where many prominent medical, social and other experts discussed precisely this question, and especially the influence of drugs on young people."

According to the data of the Federal Secretariat for Internal Affairs, the number of drug addicts registered in 1970 was 250, in 1974 it was 2,555 and in 1978 5,678. "Almost one-half of these are in our largest cities, Belgrade, Zagreb and Ljubljana, and 83 percent are below the age of 25, which causes particular concern.

"'Because of our being open toward the world as well as because of our geographic position, the heavy transit traffic and intensive tourism, Dr Valdimir Kusevic, president of the DRG Combating Commission of the Executive Council of the Socialist Republic of Croatia and head of the federal delegation to the UN Narcotic Drugs Commission, says, 'It is probable that we shall be more and more occupied with the problem of drug abuse in the coming years. Like many other countries in which drug abuse began earlier, we are not prepared to grapple with this modern evil.!"

There are no special institutions in Croatia to cure drug addicts. Various psychiatric hospitals take such patients, but educational and social follow-up treatment is lacking.

Tomislav Stanic, senior inspector of the Republican Secretariat for Internal Affairs of Croatia, says that drugs are obtained in Yugoslavia either from abroad or by theft from pharmacies or by falsifying prescriptions. Some 50 pharmacies were broken into in Croatia last year. Regulations concerning drug prescriptions are very strict, but there is no control over certain solvents contained in many products in general use. Glue sniffing has begun to spread among youths aged 15 to 17 years.

Dr Kusevic said at the conference that information about drugs among doctors, social workers and teachers is insufficient. They should be trained so that they will be able to propagate proper knowledge of drugs and their consequences among the youth.

cso: 5300

BOLIVIA

BRIEFS

NARCOTICS OFFICE APPOINTMENT--Col (Nestor Delfin Valdivieso) was sworn in by Interior Minister Jorge Celum Vaca Diez as director of the national directorate for the control of dangerous substances. [La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 5 Jan 80 PY]

BRAZIL

DRUG TRAFFICKERS SOUGHT IN CONNECTION WITH DEATH OF ARGENTINE CITIZEN

Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 22 Dec 79 p 16

[Text] The arrest of Argentine citizens Ricardo Sosa (Gato) and Oscar Hasmussen, who were implicated in the death of Hugo Angel Amorrutu, also an Argentine, in the Copacabana apartment of singer Raul Seixas, may lead police to a vast network of drug traffickers functioning in the southern zone, distributing marihuana and cocaine in large quantities. Its members are being sought by various teams.

These facts were learned from Deputy Bernardino Fonseca of the 12th Police Division. The arrest of Paulo Cesar Rodrigues de Matos, charged with the death of the Argentine and the brother of three of the five victims in the Piabeta slaughter, is also expected momentarily. The Narcotics Department of the 12th Police Division has warrants for the arrest of all three.

According to the police, Oscar Hasmussen was a middleman for a drug supplier (still unidentified) and Hugo Angel Amorrutu was his protector and friend. Oscar, who was very close to the singer Raul Seixas, did not work, had no known occupation, and lived the good life supported for all practical purposes by the singer.

Nor did Hugo have any known occupation, and the police established that both were in Brazil a year ago and that when their permits to stay in the country (three months) expired, they left and returned on renewed visas. Ricardo came to Brazil in August and became a partner of Orlando Edvard Klapztein in the Tudo Pronto Restaurant in Cabo Frio.

After being interviewed at the police headquarters, where they stated that they had found Hugo mortally injured, Oscar and Ricardo disappeared. The police then discovered that both had been in the apartment at the time when Hugo was murdered by drug trafficker Paulo Cesar Rodrigues de Matos. Oscar left his apartment (number 702), at 316 Djalma Ulrich Street, and Ricardo disappeared from his residence in the basement of the restaurant at number 716 Raul Veiga Street in Cabo Frio along with his wife, mother, and two minor children.

Cabo Frio

The police have noted the coincidence of a number of citizens of Argentina dealing in drugs on the Rio-Cabo Frio route in the past two years. Some police agents recalled that when Angela Diniz was killed in Buzios, a German woman, Gabrielle Dayer, whose name was linked with cocaine traffic, disappeared. Argentine citizen Mercedes Avelaneda, the daughter of a diplomat, was also involved in this incident, and on being summoned to testify, she fled to Argentina.

BRAZIL

POLICE ANNOUNCE ARREST OF BOLIVIAN COCAINE TRAFFICKERS

Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 21 Dec 79 p 12

[Text] Two traffickers in cocaine, Bolivian citizens Ruth and Petrona Passos Carlonga, sisters of Ivo Carlonga, who died in 1976 after the explosion of his cocaine distillery in Marica, were arrested on 13 December, the Federal Police announced yesterday. After the explosion, which led to the discovery of the gang of drug traffickers by police, Ruth and Petrona disappeared, making use of false documents, but according to the police they continued to deal in cocaine, buying it in Corumba, Mato Grosso, in exchange for cars stolen in Rio.

Federal Police located the two women after the arrest in Corumba of drug trafficker Jose Carolino da Silva (Zequinha), who was arrested a month ago while driving a Chevette with license plate RJRY2430. Also in the car were Petrona, carrying documents identifying her as Patricia da Silva, and her comrade, Ivo Pereira de Brito. Having no criminal record in that state, the two were released, but the Federal Police found that the Chevette had been stolen and began to look for Petrona at her address on Governador Island, where they found Ruth, at home, in possession of 150 grams of cocaine. The two women had already been sentenced in absentia to three and a half years in prison for trafficking in drugs, at the time of the explosion of Ivo Carlonga's distillery.

Car Thefts

According to the Federal Police, the two women continued to deal in cocaine after the death of their brother. Instead of paying for the powder in money, they took cars stolen in Rio to Corumba, on the frontier with Bolivia, and exchanged them for cocaine.

The receiver of the foreign cars in Corumba, the police said, was Bolivian citizen Guido Pinto Antelo, who has fled. Luis Carlos Leal Camara, Ruth's comrade, who was released from prison six months ago after serving a sentence for trafficking in cocaine, and a man from Morro da Providencia, who, police said, bought 500 grams of cocaine powder every month from the

sisters, have also disappeared. Petrona's comrade, Ivo Pereira de Brito, had no criminal record and was released. Petrona, who is expecting his child, also said he was uninvolved.

Apart from having to serve the sentences they were given, the two women charged will now be tried for trafficking in cocaine, car theft, assault on pedestrians, fraud, and falsification of documents. The car seized in Corumba was rented from the Nobre agency in Rio in the name of a couple whose documents had been stolen a few days earlier, and the rental sum was paid with forged checks on the BRADESCO [Brazilian Discount Bank] and the City Bank. The couple reported the crime to the 9th Police Division and the rental agency reported the theft of the Chevette to the 13th Police Division about a month ago.

Following a Corumba police communique to the effect that "Patricia da Silva" (the false name used by Petrona) and Ivo de Brito, driving a car with Rio plates, had been arrested and then released, the Federal Police began a search for them as soon as it was known that the Chevette was stolen. Questioned in Corumba, Petrona said that she lived on Governador Island, and the Federal Police then began to investigate drug traffic in the locality.

On Governador Island, the police found 150 grams of pure cocaine in the home of Ruth, who was using the name Maria Daniela da Silva. Two of her nephews who were with her said her last name was Carlonga, and the police linked the case with the episode in Marica, in which Ivo Carlonga died and his sisters fled. It is not yet known who supplied the two women with the false identity documents bearing the name "Felix Pacheco Institute." Apart from identity cards, the sisters had false voter registrations and CPF. Through Ruth, who was arrested in possession of drugs, Petrona was located the following day in Lins.

The Explosion

In March of 1976, Ivo Carlonga rented a house in Maricas for the purpose of distilling cocaine. With chemical products purchased in Sao Paulo, he produced the drug on the premises with the assistance of Bolivian citizens Irma Zacarias Rojas, her brother, Jose Bismarck Zacarias, and Johnny Lorras. Due to the carelessness of the latter, who used a cigarette lighter where there was inflammable gas, an explosion occurred on 26 March 1976. All the above were arrested. Ivo died four days later from burns at the Andarai Hospital.

Also injured in the explosion were Petrona, who disappeared along with her mother, Astrogilda Carlonga, and another brother, Jeremias Carlonga, who was arrested a short time later.

The two sisters were taken to the Federal Police headquarters yesterday, where they will be held until they can be turned over to the 23rd Criminal

Court jurisdiction. They denied participation in the traffic in drugs, but were unable to explain why they were using false documents, which they obtained "from an acquaintance," according to Petrona.

"Zequinha gave me a ride to Corumba to see my friend Ivo. I did not know the car was stolen, nor do I know anything about the cocaine," she said.

She also denied that she had continued to deal in drugs after the death of her brother. Ruth said that the cocaine was not found in her house.

"It was found behind my house, but it was not mine and it was not on my $\operatorname{person.}$ "

They were unable to explain about the false documents.

"Well, we arranged this with a boy, an acquaintance of ours," said Petrona. "I have already said that Zequinha offered me a lift to Corumba, and then Ivo came and we decided to go, just to spend some time."

The Federal Police did not allow reporters to talk to the two sisters, stating that they lied "the whole time." According to the police, Petrona said she was at home when Zequinha came with the car, which she said she did not know was stolen. Ivo's statement, however, said that it was Petrona herself who rented the car with the documents stolen from the married couple.



Petrona (on the left) and Ruth at Federal Police Headquarters.

BRAZIL

MAJOR COCAINE, LSD DISTRIBUTOR ARRESTED IN COPACABANA

Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 1 Dec 79 p 17

[Text] Narcotics Division agents seized drug trafficker Marco Antonio Fusco (Marquinhos Prelu), regarded as the main distributor of cocaine and LSD on Prado Junior Street, at his apartment in Copacabana yesterday. Also arrested was Alvaro Omar Seelig, 30, who admitted to drug addiction. Alvaro is the nephew of Deputy Pedro Seelig of Rio Grande do Sul who was involved in the kidnaping of the Uruguayan citizens Lillian Celiberti and Universindo Diaz.

Marco Antonio Fusco is charged by the homicide division with failure to aid Maria de Lourdes Portella (Flavia), 18 years of age, who died on 18 April 1978 from an overdose of drugs. Her body was found on a deserted road in Jacarepagua.

According to the police, drug addicts who frequent the nightclubs on Prado Junior Street often visit the apartment where the arrest was made. Several packets of marihuana and doses of LSD were seized at the apartment.



5157 CSO: 5300

Marco Fusco Álvaro Seelig

BRAZIL

BRIEFS

COCAINE ARREST MADE--Narcotics Division police agents arrested drug trafficker Jorge Ronaldo Pereira (Rona), who had in his possession 74 bags of cocaine, at his apartment, number 404, at 63 Carlos Arlindo Street in Cascadura yesterday. According to information from residents in the locality, Jorge was responsible for the sale of drugs to students at a municipal school and had already been charged in a number of investigations. The arrest took place at about 1830 hours, as the accused was leaving his apartment. He attempted to draw his weapon, a .38-caliber revolver, but was overcome. Police found two .38-caliber revolvers in the apartment (which he said he had purchased from criminals in a nearby slum), a precision scale and a stapler. The accused admitted selling cocaine to addicts at 250 cruzeiros per bag. Jair Rodriguez Machado was arrested yesterday by Narcotics Division agents while attempting to conceal 70 bags of cocaine under a car parked at the corner of Machado de Assis and Dois de Dezembro Streets, in Flamengo. [Text] [Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO 14 Dec 79 p 15] 5157

DRUG LOT BURNED--Four hundred kilograms of marihuana, 4.8 kilograms of cocaine, 3,700 Mandrix tablets, 720 milliliters of trichloroethylene (cheirinho da lolo), and 5 marihuana plants--the equivalent of about 2 months' drug consumption in Rio, according to Deputy Aloisio Russo of the narcotics division--were burned by the General Supervision Department of the state Secretariat of Health at Sao Sebastiao Hospital in Caju yesterday. The drugs burned were a part of what was seized between May and October of this year by almost all the police departments in the state. The value of the lot was roughly estimated at about 25 million cruzeiros. The burning session yesterday was the third held this year. The use of the furnace at the Sao Sebastiao Hospital for the burning of drugs is based on an agreement signed with the Secretariat of Health. [Text] [Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 5 Dec 79 p 14] 5157

COLOMBIA

BRIEFS

ANTIDRUG CAMPAIGN RESULTS--Bogota--A Defense Ministry announcement today revealed that the nationwide antidrug campaign has yielded positive results this year with the capture of 1,628 Colombians and 305 foreigners. The foreigners were mostly U.S. nationals. The antidrug campaign also saw the confiscation of 3,500 kilos of marihuana and 1,398 kilos of cocaine. These figures are considered to be a record in Latin America. The report also revealed the capture of 97 planes and 78 vessels, some of them of foreign registration. [Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional Spanish 1730 GMT 17 Dec 79 PA]

cso: 5300

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VENEZUELA

BRIEFS

TWO U.S. NATIONALS ARRESTED—Caracas, 2 Jan (PL)—Two U.S. crewmembers of a plane that made a forced landing in Venezuelan territory are under arrest while an investigation is being conducted to determine if they are involved in drug trafficking. Samuel Skelton and Horacio Bryant, who disappeared 9 days ago after landing on a deserted beach in the eastern state of Anzoategui, have been arrested here and will be taken to the city of Barcelona where the investigation is underway. The authorities suspect that Skelton and Bryant are involved in drug trafficking. They abandoned the plane after the landing and entered Venezuelan territory. Robert Ray Meredith, also a U.S. national, then showed up. Meredith has stated that the DC-3 was flying from the United States to Puerto Rico with a cargo of toys for "poor kids" when they were forced off course by a storm. [Text] [PA021442 Caracas PRELA in Spanish to PRELA Havana 1401 GMT 2 Jan 80 PA]

cso: 5300

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EGYPT

OPIUM KING ARRESTED, NARCOTICS CONFISCATED

Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 28 Dec 79 p 15

[Article: "Opium King With Shipment Worth Million Pounds Fall After Gunfire Chase in Heliopolis; Shipment Came From Pakistan, Was Stealthily Smuggled From Airport; Salaries, Apartments, Cars for His Aides; a Sword and an Iron Fist for Resistance"]

[Text] The opium king in Egypt fell after a gunfire chase in Heliopolis. Egyptian security forces foiled the biggest smuggling operation of a large shipment of opium whose value is estimated at 1 million pounds. The opium had been smuggled from the customs area at Cairo International Airport after it was stealthily taken out upon its arrival on an airplane from Pakistan via Kuwait. The shipment was seized, and the gang leader and his three assistants—two students in the College of Commerce and a notions salesman—were taken into custody. A gun that [the gang leader] used to resist arrest, a quantity of ammunition, a sharp sword, an iron fist and two private cars were seized.

Information had indicated that one of the international narcotics smugglers, the opium king in Egypt who is known as 'Antar, owns a number of apartment buildings and cars and has considerable power over his assistants who are members of his gang. Among them are some university students and employees of airline companies. He showers them with money, gifts and cars and he rents furnished apartments for them where they can stay away from their families. He can thus guarantee total control over them. If anyone of them were to try to disobey him, he would threaten to kill him.

Information also indicated that he derives his power by claiming that he has contacts with some security officials and by making up false rumors for the purpose of protecting himself. From the beginning, this smuggler's activities were not unknown to the police authorities. He had been under very careful observation and had been broadly investigated by Lt Col Mustafa al-Kashif, Narcotics Division inspector. These investigations had revealed that his real name was Muhammad Fahmi 'Ali Hammam; that he was known as 'Antar; that he was 38 years old; that he had been charged in 16 cases of picking prockets, theft and conspiracy to commit murder; that he had been

charged in three other narcotics cases; and that he was recruiting for his gang a number of persons who have no criminal records. He had written them checks worth between 50 and 60,000 pounds so that if anyone of them were to try to disobey him, he would produce the checks and threaten to kill him.

The investigative report that was received by Maj Gen Sami As'ad, director of the Public Anti-Narcotics Department was completed under the supervision of his deputy, Lt Col Mamduh Salim Zaki and Cols Muhammad 'Abbas, director of operations and Sayyid Ghayth, chief of foreign activity. The report also added that the smuggler had been caught red-handed last February while distributing large quantities of narcotics on Tal'at Harb Strees [a main street in central Cairo]. This was known to the al-Jizah Narcotics Division and to the investigating police of al-'Ajuzah [a sector of Duqqi across the river from Cairo]. He was then sentenced in absentia to 7 years in jail. There was also an investigation of the incident in which narcotics had been seized in the car of a senior official which the smuggler had taken without the official's knowledge. The smuggler had nevertheless continued his activity, taking advantage of his financial capabilities, moving among the furnished apartments that he was renting in Cairo and in al-Jazah and changing a number of cars every time.

In view of this information that was make available to Maj Gen Hasan Abu Basha, first assistant to the interior minister for public security, the major general demanded that a concentrated effort be made to follow the smuggler's steps and discover his method. It was noticed that a large number of opium had been dumped on the market.

Col Sami 'Abd-al-Jawwad joined Col 'Adil Anwar, director of airport investigation; Lt Cols Mustafa al-Kashif and Ahmad Nada; 'Isam al-Tirsawi; Muhammad al-Najjar; Salah Shalabi, chief of narcotics investigation at the airport; Usamah al-Hamami; and Maj Mahmud 'Abd-al-Rashid in investigating this matter. Their intense investigation revealed that the smuggler was stealthily getting the opium shipments out of the customs area at Cairo Airport with the help of his assistants. Narcotics agencies have been able to apprehend the smuggler's right hand man—his name is 'Abd-al-Mun'im Fahmi 'Ali, and he is known as 'Abduh Mus'ad—with a shipment of opium. He confessed that he had smuggled the opium from Pakistan.

'Antar, the king of opium has been careful about staying away after the smuggling plans were discovered. To deceive authorities [further] he changed the smuggling plans from Pakistan to Kuwait, where the opium would be in transit and then come to Cairo. He formed a new gang that included two students in the College of Commerce, the owner of a boutique in Port Said and a notions salesman in al-Jammaliyah [a section of Cairo]. The latter's function—and his name is Fathi Fatuh—was confined to traveling to Karachi to meet the Syrian, Pakistani and Egyptian representatives of the gang abroad and to make the arrangements for shipping the quantities of opium. An agreement to smuggle this opium to Cairo by

airplane via Kuwait had been made. The gang's assistants would receive the shipments upon their arrival to the airport, and they would keep them out of sight in a distant location. The function of the two students, Midhat Muhammad 'Ali Rasikh and Salah al-Mardanli would be to get the opium out of the customs area and deliver it to the gang leader in one of his furnished apartments.

In light of this information that was compiled by Majs Muhammad Imam, 'Imad Rashid, Sayyid Muhammadayn, 'Ala' 'Abd-al-Latif, Muhi al-Jammal and his brother al-'Ashri, a plan was devised under the supervision of Maj Gen Sami As'ad and Maj Gen Muhammad al-Minshawi, the chief of Cairo Airport police. The plan made provisions for intensifying observation and security because the smuggler and his assistants, who were armed with automatic weapons, were dangerous. The [officers] also studied the places that were frequented by the smuggler's assistants; the narcotics inspector oversaw the assignment of ambushes; a sketch was made of these ambushes; and they were tied by radio communications to the airport and to Heliopolis.

At the time fixed for the arrival of the opium shipment, one of the gang's aides arrived on a Kuwaiti airplane. His name is Fathi Futuh, and he is known for procuring narcotics. The student Midhat Muhammad Rasikh met him at the airport, and it turned out that the suitcases that had been filled with opium had been left at Kuwait Airport. The suitcases arrived the following day, and the two men took them. Their movements were watched until they left the airport in a private Fiat 123 car that had been prepared for them outside the airport by the smuggler. The car was pursued, and radio communications were exchanged until they arrived at the apartment of the gang leader in Ahmad Fahim Bayyumi Street.

The opium king was surprised as he sat with the two students, Midhat Rasikh and Salah al-Mardanli and Fathi Futuh when police forces broke into the apartment, brandishing their weapons. The opium king and his aides were forced to surrender after 'Antar fired his gun several times and his aides tried to attack the police forces with sharp weapons.

The smuggled opium shipment was seized and another shipment that had been smuggled previously but had not yet been distributed was also seized. The value of the opium was estimated to be 1 million pounds. The gun, quantities of ammunition, a sharp sword, an iron fist, papers, documents and checks confirming the fact that the men were engaged in extensive narcotics procurement activity were also seized.

The investigation was carried out by Sami Bashar, deputy narcotics prosecutor under the supervision of Samir Sulayman, chief prosecutor. He ordered the imprisonment of the gang leader and his assistants, and the confiscation of the seized opium.

IRAN

JAZIREH ANTI-DRUG CRASH PROGRAM DETAILED

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 31 Dec 79 p 10

 $/\overline{\underline{A}}$ rticle by Dr Seyyed Mohammad Hoseyn Battuli: "The Jazireh Program--a Crash Anti-addiction Plan"/

/Excerpts/ The scandal of addiction in our country is so great and deplorable that it cannot be compared to any other problem. The spread and dissemination of addiction is one of the souvenirs of the previous regime-perhaps the most serious one.

In the years of strangulation, no one had the ability to examine the bitter facts of this curse which destroyed families, because the people managing this social corruption were themselves among the omnipotent leaders of our society. This matter did not just concern the acquisition of financial profit--rather, the ultimate goal was to spread pressure by anesthetizing the thoughts of our country's pure, combative youths.

Unfortunately, after the revolution was consummated, narcotics, in particular heroin, became widespread and disseminated throughout our country because the country's administrators were busy with counterrevolutionary elements and other important matters of the revolution, and because the monopoly of the filthy Pahlavi family had been eliminated and small-scale smugglers had acquired power.

As a consequence of the years of experience I have in the area of addiction treatment, I believe that as long as there are narcotics in the country, treatment will not be of the least use. I have pointed this out many times on radio, television and other mass media in discussions, symposiums and talks.

The treatment of patients must begin simultaneously with the guidance and spread of awareness among the people and armed struggle against people engaged in the distribution, manufacture and introduction of narcotics. Otherwise, all activities and expenditures will meet with absolute failure.

It is to be hoped that the Jazireh project, which is the result of about one year's continuous, unremitting work and has given attention to all features, resources and logical recommendations, will be the prelude to a basic struggle to eliminate this family-destroying pestilence in its entirety.

- A. The goal: The total and immediate eradication of addiction, its continued eradication in order permanently to ward it off, and the treatment of addicts throughout the country.
- B. Organizations: these include the Command Staff and executive agencies.

B.1. The Joint Command Staff:

The creation of a Joint Command Staff in the Office of the Prime Minister, in the form of a council somposed of representatives with full powers: the Islamic Republican Police, the Islamic Republican Army, the gendarmerie, the Army of Guards, the Ministry of National Guidance, the Ministry of the Interior, the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Health, the revolutionary prosecutor general, the general superintendent of the revolutionary committees, the National Anti-Addiction Society, the Islamic Republic Party, the Holy War of Construction, and the radio and television of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

B.2. The executive agencies:

Guidance, National Affairs, Membership Acceptance, Intelligence, Strike, Treatment, Aid and Preparation; these will carry out the decisions of the Joint Command Staff and will comprise the following organizations:

B.2.1. The Guidance Organization:

This, with the cooperation of the Ministry of National Guidance, the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Culture and Higher Education, the Radio and Television Organization and other media such as magazines, newspapers and films, and the cooperation of combative aware spiritual persons in mosques and pulpits, has the function of making people aware of the harmful effects of narcotics through films, slides, articles, talks, posters and so forth.

Another function of this organization is to investigate international loopholes regarding smuggling and the possibility of making agreements with neighboring countries.

B.2.2. The Financial Affairs Organization:

This is to be formed with the cooperation of the Ministry of Economy and Finance, the Plan and Budget Organization, the General Statistics

Department and benevolent individuals in order to investigate the costs of the project and procure its costs and also to attract material aid from benevolent and philanthropic individuals.

B.2.3. The Membership Acceptance Organization:

The National Anti-addiction Society can make up the basic nucleus of this organization throughout the country and register all volunteers, be they surplus government employees or independent individuals who want to cooperate with this crash program on an unpaid basis. They will begin working after a training course in their fields of specialization.

The function of this organization will be to investigate the personalities of individual volunteers and to classify them according to the extent of their education, knowledge and efficiency in the other project organizations.

B.2.4. The Intelligence Organization:

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With the cooperation of all security forces, committees and guards, and also volunteers who have been educated, this will identify agents of corruption, investigate, and obtain information regarding sources of production and distribution of narcotics, as well as identifying addicts.

This information must be gathered in accurate, well-organized files, and a series of secret activities must be carried out before and during the implementation of the plan. An accurate, expanded information system must be established throughout the country.

This organization will also be in charge of controlling importers and Zionists who import materials for transforming opium into heroin and people who sell prohibited drugs to addicts without doctors' prescriptions.

B.2.5. The Strike Organization:

This will be formed with the cooperation of all security forces, the army, the police, the gendarmerie, the Army of Guards, the committees and legitimate armed volunteers who have performed military service. The function of this organization will be stringent armed combat against domestic and foreign smugglers and implementation of the military decisions of the Command Staff.

This organization must strengthen the country's border guard posts from the ideological and numerical standpoint so that the entry of narcotics into Iran may be assiduously prevented.

This organization must also give scientific, military and field training to all persons participating in armed combat against smuggling.



Another function of this organization will be to protect and control the country's borders. As soon as the start of the plan is declared it must immediately raid all headquarters of smugglers and people involved in narcotics on whom the Intelligence Organization has previously collected information, confiscate their possessions and turn them over to the legal authorities.

B.2.6. The Treatment Organization:

B.2.6.1. Treatment personnel:

The Ministry of Health will make up the basic nucleus of this organization with the cooperation of such other existing medical organizations as Red Lion and Sun, the former Royal Organization and so forth. Before the plan is carried out a list of all committed volunteer doctors in the country and all medical students will be prepared and this will give necessary instructions on the treatment of addiction over a 10-day period through correspondence, via the media and through classes for original organization members.

In this organization, use may be made of students in the departments of medical science, nursing, sociology, psychology, paramedicine and so forth.

B.2.6.2. Treatment locations:

This organization must prepare temporary places for treatment besides actual clinics and hospitals, such as mosques, confiscated buildings, campsites and so forth, in view of the statistics obtained on addicts throughout the country and their concentration in various places.

B.2.7. The Aid Organization:

With the cooperation of official government paramedics, this will constitute a basic nucleus and will draw members from among all persons volunteering to be paramedics via the Membership Acceptance Organization; these people will perform their duties after receiving instruction.

The function of this organization, which will also remain in existence years after conclusion of the period, consists of:

- B.2.7.1. Encouraging addicts to abandon the habit and protecting them during and after the treatment period.
- B.2.7.2. Necessary measures for restoring the patient's strength from the physical and mental standpoints.
- B.2.7.3. Month-by-month surveillance of patients after treatment through laboratory tests in order to identify resumption of addiction.

- B.2.7.4. Investigating possibilities for putting recovered patients to work.
- B.2.8. The Preparation Organization:

This organization will be formed with the cooperation of benevolent institutes and philanthropic and effective individuals, and its function will consist of preparing such accessories, equipment and facilities as treatment locations, drugs, medical accessories, tents, blankets, mattresses, heaters, lamps, carpets, hospital beds, chairs and so forth which will be obtained from government organizations such as the army or through the aid of benevolent individuals.

Modus Operandi of the Jazireh Project:

- D.1. Before the project is carried out, laws similar to the following must be ratified, presented to the nation and carried out:
- D.1.1. As of this date, all smugglers, importers, distributors and people luring the public into narcotics must be severely punished.
- D.1.2. A law expelling all addicts from national and governmental organizations such as the three branches of the armed forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the ministries through the performance of laboratory tests, and replacement of these persons with persons who are not addicted.
- D.1.2. $\sqrt{\underline{sic}}$ A law assigning lands of addicted farmers to non-addicts.
- D.1.3. A law prohibiting the cultivation of poppies throughout the country, executing all persons who cultivate poppies illegally, assigning the lands of farmers of this type to others for the cultivation of other national requirements, and confiscating the property of farmers of this type who cultivate poppies illegally.

Note: One must pay attention to the fact that Iran does not now have a pharmaceutical industry requiring that poppies be cultivated and be used as a drug. This was always the previous regime's excuse for renewed poppy cultivation. In the future, when our pharmaceutical industry progresses, it would be better for us to purchase the requisite opium from abroad than to grow it or for it to be grown by people in the armed forces on government lands. At present one must realize that we have enough opium for several more decades in existing storehouses.

D.1.4. In accordance with this law, after the Jazireh crash program, all addicts must register with the nearest branch of the Treatment Organization, which will be announced by the media, and present themselves for treatment in accordance with the abovementioned program. If an addict fails to register or registers but does not present himself, he will be considered corrupt on the earth and will be sentenced to the most severe punishments.

- D.2. One month following implementation of the treatment program, the following materials will be presented to the entire Iranian nation via the media, by the Guidance Organization, in the form of a warning:
- D.2.1. Since the Jazireh crash program for extirpating addiction is to be carried out starting 1 month from now in a serious, revolutionary manner, notice is hereby given to all addicts to present themselves to the Treatment Organization and to receive cards, failing which they will be subject to the punishments which have been ratified.
- D.2.2. All families of addicts and their close or distant relatives as well as their neighbors, friends and acquaintances--in general, all people who know addicts--are requested to identify them before the Intelligence Organization of the Jazireh project so that steps may be taken to treat them.
- D.2.3. All doctors, medical students, and students in relevant fields who have declared that they will cooperate with the Jazireh project Treatment Organization /are requested/ to present themselves as soon as possible to the organization's branches in their service location so that arrangements may be made for their services, which will be for a period of 15 days in the locations required.
- D.2.4. The entire noble Moslem people of Iran, who consider addiction to be a disgrace to their revolutionary society, are called upon to submit all their financial and material assistance in accordance with the required list to the Preparation Organization offices near their place of residence and receive a receipt. If they need the materials received, they may take them back if necessary following conclusion of implementation of the project.
- D.3. As the addicts present themselves, application forms comprising such information as the patient's name, age, sex, type of addiction, amount of addiction, period of addiction, history of abandonment, job, address of place of residence, address of place of employment, telephone number, reference, and other characteristics will be drawn up and examined in terms of the addiction and type of addiction (whether it requires hospitalization or can be treated on an outpatient basis). The application forms will then be sent to the national branches of the Treatment Organization so that a file may be drawn up on the addict and complete statistics on it will be sent to the central staff so that the mode of treatment may be determined.

After the data have been examined, a treatment identity card with photograph will be issued for every addict and each addict will be given a number. As with college entrance examination cards, the treatment program for each addict will be announced over the media by number; for example, it will be declared that addicts number 1 to 500 are to present themselves to Treatment Center 1 situated in such-and-such a location and that addicts number 501 through 1000 are to present themselves to Treatment Center 2 situated in such-and-such a place.

Meanwhile, following an investigation into statistics on addicts, the necessary drugs will be sent to the Treatment Organization's treatment centers.

Note: These application forms may be published in the large-circulation newspapers of the country and placed at the disposal of all addicts so that they may cut them out, fill them out and send them to the relevant centers by registered mail.

- D.4. Following the organization and deployment of Treatment Organization personnel, whose system has been previously mentioned, two types of treatment location must be provided for:
- D.4.1. Locations for persons who from the physical standpoint are unable to abandon the habit on an outpatient basis; hospitals must be provided for them and they will all be confined to bed on a specific day.

Note: In my opinion, no more than one out of 1,000 addicts requires to be confined to bed; the rest can abandon the habit on an outpatient basis.

D.4.2. For other persons, who do not need to be confined to bed, use may be made in addition to the treatment resources of existing clinics and hospitals located throughout the country of partially or wholly completed structures, former political prisons, closed-down movie houses, clubs, hotels, palaces, confiscated houses, places which have been donated by philanthropists, mosques and so forth. If these are not adequate either, one may erect a tent at every main intersection or on every thoroughfare, install the treatment group in that, and provide treatment locations by identifying the number of each addict's treatment location, exactly in the manner of the polling places for referendums which are placed at the disposal of the entire Iranian nation.

Note: In order to carry out the project, we can close all schools and universities down for 1 month (for example, during the Persian New Year holidays) in order to be able both to use these places for treatment and benefit from the manpower of school and university students.

- D.5. The treatment period will be approximately 15 days and all the new tents and temporary treatment centers will be gathered up following conclusion of treatment. In accordance with previous warnings, it will then be assumed that there is not so much as one addict in the country. If subsequently an addict does revert to his habit, an addict who has not presented himself continues with his addiction, or a new addict starts an addiction, the Jazireh laws will be applied to him.
- D.6. During and after the entire implementation period of the treatment project, necessary tests will be given by the Guidance Organization on

radio and television to the families of addicts for surveillance of addicts who have given up the habit, so that they will be able to look properly after patients who have returned to the family circle and give them the proper supervision.

Note 1: Here it must be pointed out that in accordance with my practical, scientific experience, no persons addicted to narcotics will face the least physical denger if he wants to abandon his habit or even stop relying on tranquilizers and the abovementioned Treatment Organization will be devoted only to the welfare of addicts at the time they abandon their addiction. Therefore, the treatment of addicts is not a significant problem and one must not be afraid of the absence of adequate resources or other problems of treatment.

Note 2: The physical treatment of addicts may be easily carried out by nonaddictive drugs, tranquilizers, anti-depressants, sedatives and sleeping pills. For old addicts or addicts who have another ailment one may benefit from the sufficient numbers of addicts who are at the disposal of the Ministry of Health.

Note 3: Strict surveillance over locations which have been organized for treatment is essential; this will be the responsibility of the Strike Organization.

IRAN

BRIEFS

HEROIN FOUND IN CAR--Officials of the 7th Corps of Tehran's 12th district yesterday became suspicious about a Buick with Tehran license number 24822 and ordered the driver to stop his vehicle. While ignoring the order to halt, the driver continued to increase his speed and, once having realized that he was being followed by motorcyclists, crashed his vehicle against a concrete electricity pole and abandoned it, escaping from the scene by hitchhiking. Upon inspection of the crashed vehicle whose engine was totally destroyed, 52 kilos of pure heroin packel in sugar bags were discovered. One of the officials of the above-mentioned corps, while confirming the incident, stated the fact that the corps lacks sufficient and adequate vehicles, otherwise the driver of the vehicle would have been captured by the officials. [Text] [Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI 12 Jan 80 p 11]

cso: 5300

LIBERIA

BRIEFS

MARIHUANA SMUGGLING--Monrovia, 7 Jan (AFP)--Marijuana worth \$60 million was smuggled into Liberia last year through its international airport, according to the Liberian Information Ministry newspaper NEW LIBERIAN. It based the total figure on reports by airport security staff who estimated that the \$6 million worth of the drug seized during the year only represented 10 percent of that brought through Robertsfield-Monrovia Airport. The NEW LIBERIAN charged that most of the traffickers arrested enjoyed immunity here, and that the trade was run by a veritable syndicate of businessmen, security agents, airport staff, airline company personnel and customs officials. [Text] [Paris AFP in English 1350 GMT 7 Jan 80 AB]

cso: 5300

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

BRIEFS

HEROIN IN DORTMUND--The hitherto largest quantity of heroin in North Rhine Westphalia was confiscated by Dortmund CID: 27.5 kilograms worth a total of DM 13 million. The heroin had been smuggled into the Federal Republic by a 33-year-old Turk living in Castrop-Rauxel. Bavarian police also managed to confiscate nearly 12 kilograms of heroin in Nuremberg and Fuerth today. Six Turks were detained. [Hamburg DPA in German 1915 GMT 11 Jan 80 LD]

BORDER SMUGGLING METHODS, AMOUNTS--Worldwide narcotics smuggling is getting increasingly clever. At the Hamburg airport two crates with 155 kilograms of marihuana and 5 kilograms of cannabis concentrate were confiscated which were equipped with early warning equipment, according to information by the Federal Ministry of Economics. When the crates were opened the narcotics dealers find out through a signal tone transmitted by radio that their goods -- in this case declared as ginger roots -- have been discovered. A total of 2,200 narcotics dealers were caught by customs and border police in the first 6 months of 1979 and 3,164 kilograms of cannabis, 43 kilograms of heroin and 10,102 LSD tablets discovered. Among others, a large marihuana transport of 1,160 kilograms was tracked down in Munich. As principal points for the narcotics smuggling the ministry mentioned the small-scale smuggling across the German-Dutch border as well as the Frankfurt and Hamburg airports. Excerpt Munich SUEDDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG in German 29/30 Dec 79 p 12/ 11949

ICELAND

NARCOTICS POLICE OFFICIAL: HEROIN HAS ARRIVED IN ICELAND

Narcotics Deaths

Reykjavik MORGUNBLADID in Icelandic 14 Dec 79 p 32

[Text] Narcotics authorities are aware of the deaths of Icelandic young people in the last 6 months which may be attributed directly to narcotics use. The fact emerged from an interview which MORGUNBLADID had with Gudmundur Gigja, a law officer with the narcotics division of the Reykjavik police. Gudmundur Gigja said that the narcotics problem is continually serious in Iceland and that a large effort has to be made in this area if control is to be maintained.

It emerged in the interview that around 500 Icelandic young people have been questioned by the narcotics division this year and, since the beginning, 4,000 young people have been booked by the division. The youngest was 15 years old. Many are booked time after time. There are instances of individuals making a living by distributing narcotics.

Cannabis drugs are, as before, predominate in the market, but this year, for the first time, there has been a regular importation and use of heroin, which is a most dangerous substance which kills hundreds of Scandinavians each year. "We are apt to be startled when we hear heroin mentioned, and that tells its tale," said Gudmundur Gigja.

And what will be the situation in the coming year, according to Gudmundur Gigja, if strong efforts are not made?

"More and more of the substances will be brought into Iceland and more and more young people will abuse narcotics. Hard drugs will be more conspicuous in the market, heroin, for example, and ever more Icelandic young people will become heroin addicts. They first become acquainted with heroin abroad and begin to use it, and then come to Iceland as addicts. With that heroin use begins in Iceland. Crime connected with narcotics use will increase and, last but not least, ever more Icelandic young people will

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die due to narcotics use and we know now of deaths of Icelandic young people which are directly attributable to narcotics use. It is happening all about us, for example in Scandanavia, that hundreds of young people die yearly due to hard drugs. I cannot see how it will be any different for us," unfortuaately.

Serious Problem

Reykjavik MORGUNBLADID in Icelandic 14 Dec 79 p 17

[Interview with Law Officer Gundmundur Gigja by S.S.: "The Narcotics Problem is increasingly Serious in Iceland"]

[Text] Development in narcotics matters has been exactly the same in Iceland and abroad; the development has hardly been favorable. And, unfortunately, there is no sign in the heavens indicating anything else than that this development will continue and the situation will be exactly the same next year as it is now.

That is what Gudmundur Gigja, law officer with the narotics division of the Reykjavik police said when MORGUNBLADID talked with him concerning the narcotics situation, and he has had many years of experience in the area.

And what will the situation be next year in Gudmundur Gigja's view?

"More and more of the substances will be brought into Iceland and more and more young people will abuse narcotics. Hard drugs will be more conspicuous in the market, heroin, for example, and ever more Icelandic young people will become heroin addicts. They first become acquainted with heroin abroad and begin to use it, and then come to Iceland as addicts. With that heroin use begins in Iceland. Crime connected with narcotics use will increase and, last but not least, ever more Icelandic young people will die due to narcotics use and we know now of deaths of Icelandic young people which are directly attributable to narcotics use. It is happening all about us, for example, in Scandinavia, that hundreds of young people die yearly due to hard drugs. I cannot see how it will be any different for us."

More Law Enforcement and More Education

That is a dangerous picture, but what can be done to struggle against this plague? Gudmundur Gigja was asked this.

"Much can be done. For example, law enforcement and surveillance should be increased and better preventive efforts made. For example, is it not criminal that there are no dogs for sniffing out cannabis in Iceland. Also education on narcotics and their harmful effects must be greatly increased,

both among young people and adults. Many of the young people questioned by us have completely forgotten about receiving any education on narcotics in school. We have observed that in many instances parents are the last of all to know that their children are using narcotics. They are always surprised, although much in the conduct of the young people suggest that they are using narcotics. The situation might be improved with better education."

4,000 Young People have been Booked by the Narcotics Division

According to information of Gudmundur Gigja, around 500 persons have been questioned by the narcotics division this year and, since the beginning, 4,000 persons have been booked with the narcotics division, mostly people between the ages of 18 and 30. The youngest who was booked on account of narcotics was 15 and the oldest around 40. These are rather high figures for a small country. Gudmundur Gigja was asked whether any changes had been taking place in the sale and distribution of narcotics recently.

"Yes, there are notable changes. A few years ago, or around 1956, there were groups which carried out importing on a large scale, and distributed to numerous parties. Now that has changed. Smaller quantities are imported at a time and are distributed within narrower circles, which are isolated from each other. This is doubtless done to make detection more difficult for us and we have much more work than before."

Is the smuggling of narcotics into Iceland by other paths than was the case in the past?

"Our experience is that people are not short of imagination when they set about trying to smuggle narcotics into Iceland. All methods are tried: smuggling by ships and aircraft, in letters, and luggage, and even in the individuals doing hhe smuggling; I have had experience with the hiding of narcotics on individuals' persons, in the anus or even the sex organs."

Where do the narcotics come from?

"Most of all it comes from Holland and Copenhagen, if it is a question of hashish or oil of hashish; cocaine, heroin, LSD and marijuana come, by and large, from the USA. The sale price in Iceland is two to four times the price paid for narcotics abroad so that the profit is great if the narcotics get to Iceland. And we have examples whereby people live from narcotics distribution."

Heroin has Come to Iceland

Have new kinds of narcotics emerged on the market in Iceland?

"Cannabis narcotics are predominate in the market, as before, and use of oil of hashish has clearly been increasing. Use of the hallucinogen LSD

has also been increasing, most recently, and it was very little used a time back. We have examples of the import and use of cocaine and finally we have gained corroboration that heroin has been imported in small quantities this year and used. Heroin has not come to Iceland before, as far as we know but, on the other hand, we have had reports from abroad that more and more Icelanders have made the acquaintance of heroin. What has been happening in narcotics matters in Iceland is unfortunately the same as what has been happening elsewhere in Europe. We are apt to be startled when we hear heroin mentioned and that tells its tale. The only thing lacking is corroboration of a fearful substance, the so-called PCP or angel dust. That is a substance similar to LSD, but considered more frightening, and is all the rage in the USA at this time. PCP will come to Iceland as other narcotics, and we will then be up to world standards. I will say with certainty that that which has most readily given rise to importation of the most dangerous substances, that is, cocaine and heroin, is price since a gram of these drugs costs a hundred-thousand krona."

Marijuana Plants Confiscated in Residences

Is it a kind of a fad that people are trying to grow marijuana plants here in Iceland?

"Yes, there is a definite fad and last year we confiscated 60-70 Cammabis sativa plants, and this year we have also seized many plants, most recently four plants a few days ago. These plants grow well in room heat and there is no doubt that some supply themselves with marijuana by growing it."

Icelanders have been conspicuous in narcotics matters this year abroad. What do you think this means?

"Around 1977 it became the trend for Icelandic narcotics users to emigrate, principally to Denmark and Sweden. Such people had become known for narcotics offences in Iceland and were in trouble with the law. Soon news was brought that these people were carrying out narcotics trade abroad and even on a large scale. This year a large number of Icelanders have been arrested abroad, mostly in connection with the two affairs which were much in the news a year ago, that is, the so-called cocaine affair in Denmark, and the narcotics affair in Gothenberg. In all, 24 Icelanders have been arrested abroad for narcotics sale or trafficing this year."

Narcotics Crime is Associated with Other Kinds of Crime

Gudmundur Gigja said, in conclusion, that a change which is taking place is that other kinds of crime are connected with narcotics crime and that this was almost unknown before. He mentioned, as an example, that two years ago a large amount of money was stolen from a business in Reykjavik and the stolen money was used to finance a narcotics purchase abroad.

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Gudmundur Gigja said that some burglary this year had been interpreted as being in search of narcotics supplies.

"It is clear," said Gudmundur Gigja, "that narcotics use is increasing. This is a problem which has been given too little attention, unfortunately.

There must be a major effort in regard to the narcotics problem if control is to be maintained.

11,433 CSO: 5300

ITALY

DRUG LABORATORY DISCOVERED NEAR SAN REMO

Paris LE MONDE in French 30 Nov 79 p 27

[Article: "A Drug Laboratory Is Discovered Near San Remo"]

[Text] A clandestine laboratory for processing heroin was discovered near San Remo, Italy on Tuesday 27 November. Some 22 kg of morphine base and 5 kg of heroin were seized, and 5 people were arrested, 2 of whom were French chemists, Messrs Antoine Restori, age 6 from Marseilles, and Michel Diot, 35, from Paris. They were surprised just after they had installed a processing laboratory in the basement of a mineral-water plant. The three other people are the director of the plant, Mr Ugo Zucchi, age 50, his wife, Maddalena Lavagna, 51, and an employee, Anita Zappa, 45.

These arrests were made after an investigation by French police of the Nice narcotics squad and their Italian colleagues. The inquest followed the arrest of five French drug merchants in Vintimiglia on 16 August (see LE MONDE of 29 August). An argument arose between the French and Italian police over the emplacement of clandestine laboratories feeding the new Turkey-Italy-France heroin connection. The Italian investigators were convinced that a laboratory existed in the Marseilles region.

In addition, the Italian police announced on Wednesday 28 November the seizure of 38 kg of morphine in Trieste. Some 28 foreigners, 19 of whom were Turks, were jailed in Trieste.

SPAIN

DRUG PROBLEM IN BARCELONA BECOMING MORE ALARMING

Madrid EL PAIS in Spanish 1 Dec 79 p 20

[Article by Alfons Quinta]

[Text] An appeal from Macia Alavedra, Democratic Confederation deputy from Catalonia, has brought out in the open a fact which has been known, but until now concealed. According to very reliable estimates, 1 percent of the population of Barcelona uses heroin. In fact, the member of parliament mentioned states that there are 30,000 heroin addicts in Barcelona, a figure which contrasts with the number of personnel in the Barcelona Narcotics Squad--only six members, from the Superior Police Corps.

Some years ago, at the beginning of the seventies, Barcelona became an important point in the drug trade, but only as a port of call for the traffic. The off and on harrassment which the mafia in Marseilles had received from the French police had made Barcelona become an alternative stopover for traffic which had and still has the great drug market of the United States as its final destination.

The facts of the matter were made evident by the appointment of a permanent agent in Barcelona from the defunct Department of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs of the U.S. government. This agent, Robert Mingione, remained for several years in Barcelona, but later this post was abolished. In statements which Mingione made then he indicated the growing importance of Barcelona in the flow of the traffic; the possibility that local use and crime were being promoted, and the possibility that there was a laboratory for processing the drug in the vicinity of Barcelona.

At present, for Barcelona the subject is not only traffic King, but also use; just as the main problem does not lie in the widely-distributed "joints" but in heroin, an infinitely more dangerous drug. Moreover, the heroin now used in Barcelona is 90 percent pure, while what is found in the U.S. market is more impure, because it has been handled more by a greater number of dealers.

"We have ignored the subject of heroin too long. We are surprised by the

increase in its use which has taken place in Barcelona," a responsible official from the Barcelona Narcotics Force stated to this newspaper. He was interviewed after having obtained the appropriate permission from his superiors. The conversation took place in a little room at a police station in an area of Barcelona where this force has its headquarters. The inspectors are young, and most of them deliberately look like workers on strike. No one conforms to the image of a policeman by wearing a tie. Two inspectors come in and report to the head of the force. It is just another incident in an ordinary afternoon. No one was prepared in advance, since the arrival of the reporter had not been announced. They report that in a little garden situated in front of the Clinico Hospital a group of five boys and girls about 17 years old were going into a telephone booth one after the other to inject themselves with drugs. The boys were high school students, completely middle class; one of them the son of a pharmacist. They had taken down their names and had let them go. They notified their parents.

In 1978 there was an average of one arrest per day for drug matters; 344, to be exact. In 1979 everything indicates that the average will be higher. "A year ago no one expected this," one source asserted. The narcotics police do not intend to use tough measures to solve or limit the problem. Instead they lean in the opposite direction. "This is a health problem. We must look for social solutions, with rehabilitation centers and many more measures of all kinds," stated a responsible police spokesman. "There are many young people who have nothing to hold onto, and they fall into the clutches of the drug," he added.

Along the same line, it can be pointed out that the narcotics police are very pleased to have in their group two girls from what is called the "orientation group," actually social workers, who deal with the endless human problems that go along with the legal difficulties of each drug user arrested.

Reaction to Hard Drug Problem

It is true that the reaction of society to the increase in the presence of drugs among us--especially the so-called "hard" drugs--has been minimal, and always removed from objective reality.

Let us look at some aspects of that reality. In 1970 there were 1,200 arrests in Spain for trafficking in or possession of drugs. In 1977, the number was 5,200. In 1977 there were 718 robberies of pharmacies for the basic purpose of obtaining drugs in Madrid alone, as opposed to 750 in the whole of France, 528 in all of Italy, and 1,500 in the Federal Republic of Germany in the same year. In the first 3 months of 1978 alone robberies of pharmacies in Madrid totaled 325.

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TURKEY

BRIEFS

WEAPONS, HEROIN SEIZED--Seven pistols and spare parts were seized during a search conducted by Istanbul security teams of a workshop on Zumrut Street in Gaziosmanpasa's Yenimahalle Quarter. Meanwhile, Istanbul police drug squads seized 14 kg of powder heroin during a raid on a house on Topcuemin Street in Fatih. [TA152011 Ankara Domestic Service in Turkish 1600 GMT 15 Jan 80 TA]

UNITED KINGDOM

BACKGROUND ON NEW ZEALANDER IN CHORLEY TRIAL GIVEN

Canberra THE AUSTRALIAN in English 13 Nov 79 p 7

[Article, "Love Inside a Drug Ring," by Dai Hayward and Peter Young]

[Text]

TRAIL of dismembered corpses stretching from Australia to England has woven a web of suspicion around Alexander Sinclair. wealthy New Zealander who exerts a fatal fascination on women.

Allegedly a key figure in a multi-million dollar heroinsmuggling ring, the womanising Sinclair was charged with murder on November 7 following the discovery in an English quarry of the latest victim — millionaire playboy, Christopher Johnstone, 28.

While drug ring figures have been disappearing with murdereous monotony in

murdereous monotony in the past three years, including three in the Melbourne area and three in Sydney, Sinclair has been wooing and winning women with

equal regularity.

His seductive techniques are based on expensive are based on expensive presents, fast cars, flowers and high living — all financed through his allegedly pivotal role in international drug dealings.

Latest in his harem is Karen Soich, a raven-haired

23-year-old Auckland lawyer and barrister who fell under

his spell while helping defend him last year on a charge of importing \$100,000 of heroin into New Zealand.

Now Soich stands beside the 35-year-old Sinclair in the prisoner's dock at Chor-

ley. Lancashire, charged with drug conspiracy.

In the past 15 years, while changing from a lowly-paid welder's apprentice into an suspected vicious killer emplored by the internetical. ployed by the international

drug rackets, Sinclair has had many dalliances.

He was only 20 when he married an 18-year-old Auckland machinist — 2. union that soon disin-tegrated because of Sinclair's woman-chasing ways, according to friends. The couple had a daughter

in 1968, but increasingly vio-lent rows eventually led Sin-clair to leave his wife, who divorced him in 1972 while he was serving five years for safebreaking. Less than a year later,

while still a prisoner, Sinclair married a well-known Wellington hardline heroin addict, called Norma Fleet.

Fleet, who was three years older than Sinclair, was a telephonist when not in jail,

in hospital, or on a trip of heroin addiction.

Marriage to Sinclair did nothing to help Fleet overcome her heroin addiction.

Hospital records show she

received regular treatment for drug-taking, but this was not successful.
Fleet died last year from a

drug overdose in an Auckland motel.

Sinclair had already moved on. With an acquaintance named Greg Ollard, who is now missing, and who is reported to have been murdered and buried under the tarmac at Sydney Sinclair is alleged nave become an important figure in the drug smuggling busi-

Disappearances of drug figure multiplied about this time. Julie Theilman, a 22year-old drug courier, is thought to be sharing an airport grave with Ollard.

A leading Melbourne her-oin dealer, Victor Allard, was gunned down by an assassin, followed by the discovery of New Zealander Harry Lewis in a Port Macquarie bushland grave.

But for Sinclair, they were prosperous times.

He had a new \$300,000 home built in New Zealand's Bay of Islands — one of the country's most beautiful scenic areas. The house has \$30,000 worth of security devices and anti-burglar alarms built in.

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5300

UNITED KINGDOM

POLICY OF LEGAL PRESCRIPTIONS FOR ADDICTS EXAMINED

Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 15 Nov 79 p 7

[Article, "Patients of Addication", by Malcolm Brown in London]

[Text]

FOR more than 50 years, the British Government has had a policy of allowing legal prescriptions of heroin and, in later years, methadone to selected addicts as an alternative.

The policy has been fraught with difficulty.

It has been abused. And despite moderate success with patients who have abided by this system, it has had little impact on expanding heroin addiction in Britain.

A considerable body of medical opinion supports, in certain cases, prescriptions of heroin and methadone,

Dr Dale Beckett, consultant physician at Caine Hill Hospital, Surrey, has said that there are no really valid arguments against legal prescriptions of these drugs.

He said that controlled legal prescriptions were "not only for the good of society, but reduce the death from mutilation and barbiturates and allow a personality growth which would otherwise be impossible.

"Even on quite high doses, most heroin addicts hold down responsible positions and maintain stable relationships. They keep out of prison, they aren't on social security, their children don't go into child care."

There are 70 registered addicts in Britain who receive legal prescriptions of heroin. Another 132 receive prescriptions for heroin and methadone. Nine get prescriptions for heroin and some other drugs.

Methadone is regarded as a safer alternative to heroin. Critics have argued that it is merely replacing one evil with another, and that doctors should be trying to get a patient off drugs rather than giving him an alternative lifelong addiction.

Mr Jasper Woodcock, director of the Institute for

Mr Jasper Woodcock, director of the Institute for the Study of Drug Abuse, said medical authorities in Britain had never accepted that putting someone on methadone was giving him a drug for life.

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The aim of treatment, even when it involved prescriptions of addictive drugs, was to get patients off drugs eventually, and in this there had been about a one-third success rate in London clinics in the last seven to 10 years.

10 years.
"A one-third success rate is not tremendously high but it is in line with plenty of other things in the mental health field," he said.

"It is much higher than for short-term methods of treatment. If you take the short-term field, then 5 per cent coming off drugs would be good."

In adopting the policy of allowing controlled legalised prescriptions of heroin from 1926, Britain put itself at odds with America, which was against legalised prescriptions of the drug.
However, in the late 1960s

America endorsed legalised prescriptions of methadone and joined Britain and Holland in the policy. But other countries, such as Norway and Sweden, do not agree. agree.

Maintenance of addiction Maintenance of addiction in selected patients was an old policy in Britain, Mr Woodcock said, and had been expounded at the time of widespread opium use in Victorian England.

But while the policy of allowing a limited number of addicts to take heroin worked

addicts to take heroin worked earlier this century, the period of the 1960s, with its mushrooming drug problem, presented big problems.

Access to heroin through Access to nerom through legal prescriptions was too easy in London in the 1960s. While there were relatively few doctors satisfying ad-dicts' wishes, they were enough.

There was a massive increase in heroin addiction in the mid to late 60s; with numbers doubling themselves every 16 months, Much of the heroin obtained legally found its way on to the strects.

In 1968, the system tightened up. Only certain doctors were permitted to prescribe heroin and patients who did get the prescriptions were closely scrutinised.

"You had to convince them you really needed heroin and couldn't do without it," Mr Woodcock said.

But doctors limiting their

prescriptions in the patient's interests caused another

interests caused another problem. Patients went out. and "topped up" on the black market.

It is a problem that continues. "If you'exercise some sort of judgment, there are bound to be addicts to whom you give too little," Mr Woodcock said.

Up to half the addicts to be

Up to half the addicts obtaining legal prescriptions of heroin today still went out and got more on the streets,

From the early 1970s, the heroin problem has been curtailed, but only slightly. From 1972 to 1977, there was a 35 per cent increase in numbers of heroin addicts in Britain. In 1975, criminal syndicates and Chinese secret societies moved into the market in a big way.

There would be about 8,500 heroin addicts in Britain today, Mr Woodcock estimates, and if irregular users are included, total heroin users come to as many as 16,000.

UNITED KINGDOM

SERIOUS INCREASE NOTED IN HEROIN SMUGGLING

London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 28 Dec 79 p 11

[Article by John Shaw]

[Text] Britain is sitting on a "powder keg" and faces a tremendous hard drug addiction problem, Mr Peter Cutting, head of the Customs Investigation Division, said in London yesterday.

Heroin smuggling from Iran and Turkey had shown "an alarming and serious increase," accounting for two-thirds of the heroin seized by Customs this year, he said.

In 1979, 82.7 1b of heroin--worth 10,400,000 pounds on the streets--had been impounded.

Releasing the annual drug seizure figures up to Dec. 20, Mr Cutting said the heroin was brought in by people of Iranian and Turkish origin for their own use. "But there is always a danger of overspill to people in this country."

Addiction Figures

The number of heroin addicts had not risen, but there was generally a two-year delay between a person first taking the drug and then appearing on the drug addict statistics.

Because of the unsettled political situation raw drugs were being brought into the country "simply as a means of transferring capital." Customs intelligence showed Europe "is now the target destination."

Opium seizures were also up to 129.2 1b from 21.8 1b in 1978. Opium is the basic scurce of heroin and the value of this year's haul was 469,960 pounds.

Cannabis smuggling also showed an increase this year. Seizures of herbal cannabis amounted to 9,585.8~1b (6,607.1~1b last year) worth 8,700,000

pounds. Resin seizures were 11,325 lb (701.46 lb) worth 12,800,000 pounds but liquid cannabis 85.4 lb (129.1) [worth] 388,140 pounds, was down from 575,000 pounds.

Money Motive

Mr Cutting said: "The explanation is that professional criminals look to drug smuggling at the moment as being more profitable than bank raids or payroll snatches."

Customs officers took possession of 5,742 LSD tablets and 2,000 "spots," showing the trade is still small after the major LSD drive in investigations like Operation Julie.

Mr Cutting said people had forsaken "acid" for cocaine, 46.9 lb of which was held. This amount--worth 3,400 pounds--showed a 45 per cent increase on 1978.

The total value of all seizures was 36,500,000 pounds—up 15 million pounds on 1978. The substances represent 90 per cent of all drugs seized in Britain.

UNITED KINGDOM

BRIEFS

BAIL IN CANNABIS CASE--Two Kuwaiti princes and their cousin, charged with being concerned in the smuggling of an estimated 150,000 pounds' worth of cannabis resin through Heathrow, were granted bail totalling 15,000 pounds each at Marylebone court yesterday. Prince Saad Al-Sabah, 25, a lawyer, his brother Prince Anwar, 27, a law student, and their cousin Talal Mubark, 23, also a student, who were staying at Cambridge Square, Paddington, were all bailed until Jan. 15. A third brother, Prince Reyadh Ali, 19, a student, who is similarly charged, did not apply for bail and was remanded in custody. [Text] [London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 8 Jan 80 p 3]

KUWAITI POLICEMAN ON CHARGE--A one-legged Kuwaiti policeman accused of being concerned in illegal importation of an estimated 75,000 pounds' worth of cannabis resin was granted 20,000 pounds bail at Marylebone court yesterday and remanded until Tuesday. Mohamed Ibrahim Al-Khazam, 55, of Glengall Road, Kilburn, whose leg was amputated after being injured on duty, was ordered to surrender his passport and report daily to Kilburn police. [Text] [London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 12 Jan 80 p 3]

CANNABIS HAUL AT DOCKS--Police and Customs men are seeking a gang responsible for a 3 million pounds haul of herbal cannabis found at Liverpool's Seaforth Docks. Two tons of the drug were found packed in a container aboard the vessel, Astromer, after it berthed last week from Jamaica. It is understood that the container was to go to an address in Birmingham. [Text] [London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 24 Dec 79 p 1]

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